

THE TIMES
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Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition weekly prize of £20,000 was won on Saturday by Mr Philip Neat, of Stamford Hill, London. Two readers shared the Saturday daily prize of £2,000 - Mrs A. Robertson of Dedham, Essex, and Mr O. A. Waterman of West London. Today's Portfolio prize is £2,000. Last page 20: rules and how to play. Information service, back page.

Teachers to intensify strikes

The teachers' unions are to intensify their strike action in schools today to force a better pay offer after the breakdown of talks last week. The National Union of Teachers is to begin a two-week campaign of regional half-day strikes, rallies and demonstrations. Page 2

Tebbit takes over publicity

Mr Norman Tebbit, Conservative Party chairman, is to have unprecedented control over the presentation of government policies in a reorganized publicity machine to prevent damaging political gaffes. Page 2

Botha snub

President Botha dashed hopes of any deal with the African National Congress after South African businessmen met leaders of the banned movement in Zambia. Page 8

Oil pressure

The prospect of Saudi Arabia using oil in part payment of £3 billion for British military aircraft is putting pressure on Opec's price structure. Page 2

Lagos loan

Nigeria is expected to succumb to pressure to devalue the naira and reopen negotiations with the IMF on a \$2.5 billion loan. Page 7

Ashley coma

The fashion designer Laura Ashley, aged 60, was still in a coma yesterday, a week after injuring herself in a fall at her daughter's home. Her condition was unchanged. Walsgrave hospital, Coventry, said.

Karpov wins

Anatoly Karpov, the world chess champion, scored his second successive win over Gary Kasparov (White), who resigned after 41 moves in the fifth game of the title match. Page 8

Aids decision

The Government has ignored warnings from professional advisers that to break up the Public Health Service Laboratory network would severely hinder the battle against AIDS and other serious infectious diseases. Page 3

SPECIAL REPORT
Queen's University, Belfast is in the process of rapid change and is seeking to harness its academic brainpower with the needs of industry. Pages 17-19

Leader page 15
Letters: On Handsworth, from Mr E. Morrell, and others; Soviet defection, from Mr P. Coni, and Mr A. R. Lynch
Leading articles: Liberals: Mrs Thatcher and the Middle East; child custody
Obituary, page 16
Mrs Nora Larvin, Lady Oliver

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Britons in Moscow fear expulsions crisis could escalate

From Richard Owen, Moscow

As the 25 Britons ordered out in fierce retaliatory action by Moscow on Saturday, began packing their bags, diplomats gave a warning that further tit for tat expulsions could precipitate the worst crisis in Anglo-Soviet relations for many years, perhaps for decades.

Mr Mikhail Gorbachev had brushed aside both his personal rapport with Mrs Thatcher and the potential impact on East-West relations, and would do so again, sources said.

"It's the man with the teeth of iron against the Iron Lady," one Nato diplomat commented.

Beleaguered Britons 8
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When Britain expelled 105 Russians in 1971, Moscow threw out only 18 Britons in response. The 1971 action, none the less, turned Anglo-Soviet relations icy, and it was only recently that they began to warm again.

There were reports in diplomatic circles at the weekend that the Russians were prepared for more expulsions from London, and that this would be followed by the expulsion of an equivalent number of Britons from Moscow.

Sir Bryan said the expulsion of the 25 on Saturday was a wholly unjustified and vindictive act. No blame or stigma attached to any of those expelled, who would all be sadly missed in Moscow.

Diplomats had not expected so harsh or so swift a reaction by the Kremlin. It had been

thought the Russians would wait until after the planned trade visit by George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland. It has now been cancelled, although a trade mission is going ahead, led instead by Lord Clydesmuir.

The mission arrived last night, and was met at Moscow airport by a senior official of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce. Sir Bryan told the businessmen that their visit was "logical and valid" despite the current troubles.

The expelled diplomats include Viscount Asquith, Mrs Janet Gunn, Mr Andrew Gibbs and Mr George Edgar of the embassy political staff.

Nato diplomats said the "carnage" inflicted by the Kremlin showed that Mr Gorbachev was less concerned about damage to Moscow's links with Britain than about its ties with France or West Germany. He travels to France in just over two weeks time and in April, 1983, Moscow refrained from retaliation altogether when Paris expelled 47 Soviet diplomats and officials.

Russia's tough reaction casts shadow over trade future

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, was considering yesterday whether the Government should respond to what he described as "a totally unjustified Soviet action" by expelling more Soviet officials from Britain in response to the expulsion of the 25 British diplomats, journalists and businessmen from Moscow.

In announcing the expulsion of 25 alleged Russian spies from Britain last Thursday, the Foreign Office had said it would take a "very serious view" of retaliatory expulsions. A British statement is expected early this week.

The first test of the state of Anglo-Soviet relations will be in eight days time when Sir Geoffrey is to hold talks in New York with Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister - assuming that the meeting goes ahead. The two men will be in New York to attend the opening session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The tough Soviet response not only threatens to undermine

the steady improvement in bilateral relations since 1983, but could also hamper the expanding trade relationship. It was noted in London, however, that only two businessmen were among the 25 Britons being expelled, suggesting that Moscow wants to maintain the commercial links which provided the Soviet Union with a useful hard-currency surplus of £119 million last year.

The decision of a Scottish trade delegation to go ahead with its visit to Moscow is a sign that Britain is also keen to keep the trade relationship. Last year Britain sold goods to the Soviet Union worth £735 million while importing £854 million worth of Russian goods. This compared with British exports worth only £445 million the previous year. Russian exports to Britain in 1983 were worth £730 million.

The tough Soviet response provoked a flurry of activity in top Government circles yesterday. Sir Geoffrey cut short a weekend break to consult with

senior Foreign Office and security service officials on how Britain should react and to assess the damage to Anglo-Soviet relations. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who was spending the weekend at Chequers, was kept informed of developments.

Sir Geoffrey said in a statement that the utterly condemned this totally unjustified action directed against British businessmen and journalists, as well as embassy staff.

"We have consistently made clear our wish to have improved political and commercial relations with the Soviet Union and have worked hard for that. But this Soviet action, for which there is no justification whatsoever, is bound to set back that process."

The 18 staff expulsions leave the embassy much weakened. It normally has a staff of 80, of whom 43 are accredited diplomats. It is the first time Moscow has ordered out an equal number of foreign nationals in retaliation for the expulsion of Soviet officials.



Jacklin is held aloft by Faldo (left) and Langer (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Europe's Ryder Cup victory

By David Miller

For the first time in 28 years, the United States surrendered the Ryder Cup golf trophy yesterday, being defeated at the Belfry, near Sutton Coldfield, by 16½ matches to 11½ by the European team of seven Britons, four Spaniards and a German. Europe took yesterday's singles 7½ to 4½.

A winning lead was assured when, with Piner, Way, Lyle (the Open champion), and Langer having already won, Ballesteros pulled back from three down at the 13th hole to halve with Kite, and then Torrance, three down at the

10th to North, memorably took his match, and the Cup, with a birdie three to North's six at the 18th, winning by one hole.

Tony Jacklin, the non-playing captain, said of Torrance's victory: "You dream of winning the Ryder Cup that way. Being a part of this achievement, even though I was not playing, was the best thing in my career after my victories in the British and American Opens. European golfers have shown the world that they don't just make up the field, and I believe they and the British will now go from strength to strength."

Explaining his selection for

the singles, Jacklin said that he had deliberately put his strongest players in the middle of the 12 matches and had given Piner the difficult opening match against Wadkins. Piner won 3 and 1.

Essex retained the John Player Special League cricket championship by beating Yorkshire at Chelmsford by two wickets with one ball to spare.

Ayrton Senna, of Brazil, won the Belgian Grand Prix motor race to put himself third in the world championship table a point ahead of his team colleague, de Angelis. Sport, pages 23 to 26

'Missing' jet lands in Tel Aviv

From Robert Fisk, Nicosia

An American-owned DC8 jet, which took off from Tabriz in north-west Iran yesterday morning, was reported last night to have landed secretly at Ben Gurion Airport in Israel after going "missing" in Turkish air space.

Air traffic controllers in Ankara and Nicosia said that the plane, which had been tracked across Antalya, in Turkey, and then southwards over the Mediterranean, landed at Ben Gurion in the early afternoon after suddenly deviating from its designated flight path to Malaga in Spain. They said the aircraft belonged to an American company called "International Airways" although both its cargo and the nationality of its crew remained unknown.

Despite earlier Israeli denials, the co-ordination centre at Ben Gurion Airport confirmed last night that the aircraft had landed and was undergoing repairs as reported earlier by Israel Radio.

Arab nations have frequently complained that Israel is still selling weapons to Iraqians for use in Iran's five year old war with Iraq and the mysterious flight of the DC8 jet yesterday is likely to provoke fresh accusations. The Israelis have privately told the Americans that they ceased supplying Iran with weapons and spare parts more than three years ago.

In Nicosia, an official at the Cypriot Aviation Control Centre said: "We telephoned Tel Aviv on our direct line and an Israeli told us the pilot of the DC8 had experienced a complete electrical failure on board."

France will open test site to South Pacific leaders

From Diana Geddes, Paris

President Mitterrand said yesterday he would invite all heads of countries in the Pacific Forum, including Australia and New Zealand, to visit the Mururoa nuclear site.

They could then see for themselves there was no danger of radioactivity, he said. In an allusion to the charge made by Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, that he considered New Zealand an enemy, the French president said: "France has no enemy in the south Pacific. It simply wants to have its rights respected. Who in France or in the world can be surprised at that?"

He used his lightning visit to the Mururoa site in French Polynesia on Saturday to

reaffirm France's determination to preserve, and indeed reinforce, its strategic and cultural presence in the South Pacific, and to continue with its nuclear tests despite the increasingly vociferous opposition from its critics in the area.

Ignoring New Zealand's and Australia's implicit warning in their description of his visit as an act of deliberate provocation, Mr Mitterrand chose to use the first meeting at Mururoa of the newly-created French Committee of Co-ordination of the South Pacific to declare: "The sovereignty of France cannot be challenged. No-one but France can decide when French interest in the Pacific are concerned, unless they are to be seen as adversaries."

Peres rules out UK peace role

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

If Britain wants to play a serious role in the Middle East, it must throw its weight behind direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan, without the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Mr Shimon Peres has made this abundantly clear in an interview with *The Times* to mark the anniversary on Friday of his taking over a year ago as Labour Prime Minister of what he called Israel's "impossible coalition".

A year from now he is due to hand over to his Likud rival, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, but for the moment he is riding very high in the opinion polls.

Mrs Thatcher arrives in Cairo tonight at the start of a five-day visit to Egypt and Jordan. Mr Peres seems to have little hope that she will be able to achieve much, given the British insistence on involving the PLO in any peace negotiations.

If Mrs Thatcher were to support direct negotiations between Jordan and Israel, or between Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation without the PLO, that would be welcomed. If, on the other hand, she were to support an international conference - well, *deja vu*.

His year's crowning achievement he sees as having brought in the plan to rebuild the economy, and he was now most concerned about inflation - He said he had learnt from Mrs Thatcher not to allow unemployment to become a major issue.

Thatcher mission, page 7; leading article, page 15; Peres interview, back page.

Riot is blamed on 'drug barons'

From Craig Seton, Birmingham

Drug barons acting to protect their big business in heroin and cocaine dealing in the Handsworth area of Birmingham might have been behind last Monday's riots in which two Asians died when their post office was fire bombed.

Mr Geoffrey Dear, West Midlands Chief Constable, said last night that it was almost certain that drug pushers were responsible. He was convinced that police investigations now underway into the riots would prove that they had been involved.

Mr Dear was speaking after a private meeting of the Labour-controlled West Midlands' police committee at which it was disclosed that the police, who are conducting their own inquiry into the riot, would co-operate with the public inquiry into the disturbances that Birmingham City Council has announced it will conduct.

Mr Dear said there was a network of cannabis dealing in the deprived area of Handsworth and it was easy for those who wanted to push heroin and cocaine to use the same established routes.

"I believe it is these people who were behind this riot, acting in defence of enormous profits. We have an influx of heroin and cocaine coming into Birmingham at the moment."

Mr Dear agreed that a blind eye might have been turned by the police in the past to small cannabis dealings in the area and that a change in policy towards drug dealing could have been responsible for the trouble. Main dealers in heroin and cocaine were finding their livelihood threatened by the enlarged West Midlands drug squad.

He said the drug squad had not been interested in small drug users but in the chaps who were dealing in, for instance, 10 kilos of cannabis or three-quarters of a kilo of heroin.

Mr Edwin Shore, chairman of the committee, praised the police officers' courage and dedication. They faced a "ram-paging mob" and he could not criticize the police for waiting until reinforcements arrived rather than let just 12 officers be sent in the face of the rioters.

On Saturday, all 10 Asian members of the Birmingham Community Relations Council resigned, saying that the West Indian faction on the body has been "totally silent" about the violence in Handsworth.

The Asians said the 50-member council was dominated by Afro-Caribbeans who had no interest in Asian difficulties.

The resignations were announced after more than 40 Asian community leaders met in Handsworth to discuss the riots and attacks on mainly Asian property. They demanded an inquiry into the work of the council and said there should be an independent investigation into the riot.

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On his way: Mr Crawford leaves the field

Walk-off referee runs into trouble

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The Rugby Football Union may be forced to rewrite their bye-laws, or at the very least make an addition to existing laws of the game, after a senior referee walked off the field during a match at Bristol on Saturday.

The referee's action, though not entirely without precedent, has not so far as is known, happened before in a first-class game, and is not covered by the law book.

George Crawford, a police superintendent based in London, spoke to the captains and other players involved in the game between Bristol and Newport - two of the most respected senior clubs in Britain - after an outbreak of fighting. A few minutes later, after another incident, he walked off the field without declaring the match abandoned. After a 10-minute delay

while officials of both clubs spoke to Mr Crawford, the game continued with a local referee in charge and ended in a 21-14 win for Bristol.

Mr Crawford, an Ulsterman, has been one of the leading members of the London Society of Referees for the last eight years and has been short-listed by Ireland for their international panel in the last two years. He said yesterday: "It was a good game of rugby for 20 minutes, then it became a street brawl."

"I am not a boxing referee. I was disgusted with what I had seen. I was fully aware of what I was doing and I know it might mean the end of me as a referee. I couldn't assess who was responsible for starting the punching. I could have said I was abandoning the game, but there were about 4,000 people there and I took a conscious

decision to go off in the hope it would stop people into realizing the problems referees are faced with."

Mr Crawford, aged 42, faces the possibility of disciplinary action because he failed to follow procedure laid down for referees under Law 26 relating to foul play. That could leave him open to a charge, brought under the RFU's bye-laws, if it is considered that his conduct was prejudicial to the interests of the union or the game.

Referees have been known to walk out on matches at junior level, but it has been possible to overlook such incidents at a comparatively low level of the game. Mr Crawford, however, is a senior and thoroughly respected official and it will be impossible for the home union concerned - Ireland, Wales and England - to ignore his action.

Teachers to resume strike action today after failure of talks on pay

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The teachers' unions will intensify their strike action in schools today, in an attempt to force a better pay offer after last week's breakdown in talks.

The Government came under renewed pressure yesterday to settle the nine-month dispute when Mr Giles Radice, Opposition spokesman on education, made public a letter he has written to the Prime Minister asking her to make a new peace initiative.

He said that if it were true Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, could not persuade his Cabinet colleagues to provide extra money to solve the dispute, it was time Mrs Thatcher got the Cabinet to agree extra money to settle this year's claim.

The National Union of Teachers, the biggest teachers' union, will today begin a two-week campaign of regional half-day strikes, rallies and demonstrations. Every English and Welsh local education authority and almost every school is expected to be affected by half-day strikes between now and September 30.

The union says that many schools are expected to close for half a day, while others will be obliged to send children home early or to exclude classes taught by NUT members.

The second biggest union, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, is holding indefinite guerrilla strikes in 22 authorities. They are: Birmingham, Brent, Bromley, Essex, Haringey, Hounslow, Knowsley, Leicestershire, St Helens, Barnet, Bradford, Dyfed, Kent, Leeds, Mid Glamorgan, North Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Redbridge, Sefton, Solihull, Wakefield, and West Glamorgan.

The NUT will also ballot its 216,000 members about whether they want to take more serious industrial action if the dispute continues after October 1. The NAS/UTW is not holding a ballot but both unions are maintaining their refusal to carry out duties which are considered voluntary.

Pupils are disruptive 'at younger ages'

By Our Education Correspondent

Primary school children are showing disruptive tendencies at younger ages than previously, as early as six, seven and eight years old, according to research carried out by academics from London University.

The study, which confirms research undertaken last year by the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, found very young children being disobedient, using bad or abusive language, showing aggression towards other pupils and not listening in class.

Based on a survey of 40 local education authorities, the study by Dr Jean Lawrence and Mr David Stead, of Goldsmith's College, elicited responses from 85 head teachers. The heads put some of the blame for disruptive behaviour on to television. Schools were asked to monitor all disruptive incidents happening on one day. There were 312 incidents altogether, 69 per cent from "difficult" intake schools, 17 per cent from "average" and 14 per cent from "easy" schools.

Aggression was the most common form of disruptive behaviour (15 per cent), then disobedience (10 per cent), poor concentration and clowning (8 per cent) and defiance (7 per cent). In "easy" intake schools poor concentration, restlessness and fearfulness were mentioned most frequently. There were only five recorded incidents of vandalism and three of truancy.

The research, described in the latest issue of *Report*, the association's journal, found a substantial number of the 85 head teachers (62 per cent), and more in "difficult" than in "average" schools, thought the age of onset for disruption was getting earlier.

"We suggest that disruption is now experienced between three to five years earlier than hitherto, and that the change has been occurring over the past 10 years."

Sir Keith, interviewed on BBC Radio's *World This Week* yesterday, said that the dispute was casting a "very gloomy light". He repeated his claim that the NUT was to blame for the current impasse, and said he was surprised that they refused to discuss the £1.25 billion restructuring package for next year and successive years.

"I cannot understand why the teachers are actually not willing even to discuss the proposals," he said.

Some union leaders seemed to be constantly distorting what was on offer to teachers, ignoring what was said and ignoring the real needs of their members and pupils. The dispute set a terrible example to children because they saw "professionals walking out on their duty".

His allegations were rejected by Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the NUT.

Sad sidelight on school dispute

By Ronald Faux

Mainholm Academy on the outskirts of Ayr in Scotland is more than a comprehensive school.

For many youngsters it is a stable rock in an area that claims a high number of single-parent families, unemployed and industry under threat.

For the teaching staff this is the saddest feature of the dispute on pay that has dragged on for more than a year, straining morale, damaging the prospects of children who had a reduced chance in the first place, and forcing teachers to do other jobs.

Three times recently Mr Andrew Allen, the head teacher, had called in the police to deal with playground disorder. "This is causing me a great deal of mental and physical strain. I have to give the appearance of normality when

all is abnormal, and reassure parents that teaching provision will be at as high level as we can make it," he said.

It is an impossible task. The 73 full and part-time teaching staff support overwhelmingly the action of the Educational Institute of Scotland in seeking an independent pay review.

"I deeply sympathize with their position on salaries but the effect on the education of children here must be bad. I calculate that 50 teaching periods out of 203 were lost in some subjects because the school was targeted during the first 29 weeks. That must be damaging. It cannot be anything else," Mr Allen said.

The teachers remain determined. Mr Bill McGregor, deputy head and an EIS member, said: "What the Government has offered in all

its detail is simple no reasonable reward for what they are expecting the teachers to provide. It is desperately sad but we all feel there is no alternative."

Mr Dennis Johnston, principal teacher of English and EIS representative, said: "It took a lot of heart searching to embark on this dispute knowing the children would suffer, and that our own children, too, would suffer. This is not entirely about salaries. It is about the entire question of funding education and we must get a proper basis for that."

"We felt, all of us, that the profession was being taken for granted," he said. "The result is that schooling is now a strictly 9 to 4 activity, with none of the important extras that made Mainholm a richer and socially important place."



Six members of Mainholm's teaching staff: (from left) Bill McGregor, David Johnston, Marion Woodall, Denis Johnston, Eleanor Aitken, Alison Ferguson.

CHRISTIE'S

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Scots resent rates on sporting land

By a Staff Reporter

The Scottish Landowners' Federation is pressing the Government to cut the rates burden on sporting land. It claims that the present system is unfair and threatens an important rural industry which employs 88,000 people full time, directly or indirectly.

The federation complains that about 80 per cent of the rate paid by British sporting rights proprietors comes from Scotland because of a difference in the law, and that this produces an unjust and widely-resented result.

Rates on fishing, shooting and stalking rights in Scotland do not reflect either the returns or the key part they play in the economy of the countryside, the federation says, and field sports can be sustained only if the heavy investment proprietors have to make can be justified.

"Managers in Scotland are particularly aggrieved that their colleagues in England pay very little in the way of rates," a federation official said.

The Rating and Valuation (Scotland) Act, 1956, assumes valuation on an annual rental. One Borders laird explained that the rates bill had to be paid regardless of whether there were grouse on the land, and bags shot in the area over a five-year period were also taken into account.

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100,000 illegitimate births last year

More than 100,000 illegitimate babies were born in England and Wales last year and, but for the strict marriage and moral customs of Indian and Pakistani immigrants the total would probably have been higher.

Of babies born to mothers who were themselves born in Britain, 18.5 per cent were illegitimate, compared with 8.1 per cent in 1971.

Just over 1 per cent of babies born to Indian mothers were illegitimate, slightly less than 1 per cent to mothers from

Drowned boys' parents 'paid for insurance'

The four boys who drowned at Land's End during a school holiday had no special insurance cover, although their parents contend that they had paid for it.

The parents said they were told that special holiday insurance was included in the £90 cost of the trip, organized by Stoke Poges Middle School in Buckinghamshire, and say they have documents to prove it.

"We have had no explanation," Mr John Hurst said. His son, Nicholas, aged 10, drowned.

Wine sales

More than 20 million adults in Britain drink wine regularly, a three million increase since 1982, and sales this year will top a record £1.8 billion, according to figures released yesterday.



Steve Overt winning the Peugeot-Talbot Westminster Mile road race yesterday. Steve Cram was second. Report, page 23 (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Strike plan for council workers

By Barrie Clement

Pay talks between local authorities and unions resume today, although detailed plans for industrial action by refuse collectors and other key staff have already been drawn up.

Mr John Edmonds, general secretary elect of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, said the one million manual workers involved were ready to walk out if low pay was not eliminated.

Mr Edmonds said: "There is a stark choice facing the employers. Either they come up with a pay package which meets the expectations of our members, or they trigger the industrial action they have been warned will happen."

Union leaders believe the employers have been under pressure from the Government to drop a proposed peace package which would have broken through a 3 per cent pay factor planned for the public sector.

The outline offer, tentatively discussed in a joint working party on August 29, would do away with the two lowest grades, initiate a review of others and award a general £6 a week rise. The whole package could amount to what the government would see as an unacceptably high increase of about 8 per cent.

Wage claims 'larger'

Pay claims have dropped by more than half since 1979 but have grown larger in real terms and, according to a Confederation of British Industry report out today, the confederation's "Pay Databank" shows that the average claim is equivalent to an increase in real wages of about 5 per cent.

Blow to pitmen

Mr Clive Jenkins's white collar Association of Scientific, Technical and Management Staffs, has switched its vote away from a potentially damaging motion to go before the Labour Party conference calling for reimbursement of fines sustained by the National Union of Mineworkers during the strike.

The union supported the resolution at the TUC conference earlier this month, but its executive voted 15 to 5 at the weekend to mandate its party delegates to back a watered-down version.

GEC pays BR £7m over engine failures

By Rupert Morris

GEC, one of Britain's biggest industrial companies, has agreed to pay British Rail £7 million compensation for the failures of engines powering high-speed trains.

Lord Weinstock, GEC chairman, said yesterday: "British Rail had a claim against us and it has been dealt with."

He was not prepared to discuss figures, but said he had taken a personal interest because "I had a dissatisfied customer, and I don't like having dissatisfied customers."

British Rail, however, confirmed that it had secured an agreement from GEC to pay £4 million immediately, and deduct a further £3 million from payments for spares over the next few years.

The agreement, which goes beyond normal guarantee arrangements, was seen both as an indication of BR's more competitive attitude towards suppliers, and of GEC's determination not to lose a good customer.

The railway claim arose from deficiencies in the turbine inlet casing, exhaust manifold and crank cases of diesel engines made by Paxman, a GEC subsidiary; these resulted in 10 failures a day among BR's 95 high-speed trains in 1983, showing their top speed for 125 mph to 100 mph.

Modifications to the Paxman engine have reduced the number of failures by half.

British Rail said yesterday: "We now feel that Paxman are more alert to the problems we have had, and that the performance of the engines has improved."

GEC has also agreed to pay £250,000 compensation for defects in the choke unit on the controversial driver-only trains.

Church plea on pensions scheme

Any reform of the social security system must be seen to foster a fairer distribution of the nation's resources to all its citizens, and should not seek economics through reducing the services and benefits to those genuinely in need, a Church of Scotland committee has told the Government.

The church and nation committee has criticized strongly proposed changes to the system. It says that it has "no confidence" in the proposals to abolish the state earnings-related pensions scheme (Serps), and urges the Government to think again, although it gives qualified support to the proposal for a retirement decade, which would give a choice to people on their retirement time.

It expresses similar lack of confidence in the proposed family credit scheme and in the reforms suggested for maternity, death and widowhood benefits, and again calls for reconsideration. Housing benefit proposals, it says, will worsen the position of many.

The committee is also particularly concerned about the likely impact on pensioners, single parents and the jobless of changes in supplementary benefits.

Williams 'to fight Cambridge'

Mrs Shirley Williams, Social Democratic Party president and a founder member, is expected to fight Cambridge for the Alliance at the next general election.

The seat is at present held by a Conservative, Mr Robert Rhodes James.

Mr Matthew Oakshott, a former adviser to Mr Roy Jenkins, fought the seat for the SDP in 1983, when he came second, and would have expected to challenge Mr Rhodes James next time.

But after informal talks at the SDP's recent party conference in Torquay, it is understood an arrangement has been reached whereby Mrs Williams will be the Alliance candidate.

Tories to improve publicity machine

By Richard Evans

Lobby Reporter

A shake-up of the Conservative Party's publicity machine is being planned in preparation for the next general election and to counter the fall in the Government's popularity.

The re-organization, which will bring in new and younger faces at party headquarters and include a communications blueprint for the election, coincides with the appointment of Mr Norman Tebbit as party chairman.

It is how clear that far from just preparing the Tories for election battle, Mr Tebbit is to have unprecedented control over the way the Government presents itself and its policies to the public.

To this end, Cabinet ministers will be expected to discuss potentially controversial issues and policies with Mr Tebbit at an early stage in order to work out their presentation before they are "leaked". The aim is to avoid damaging political "leakage" such as the dispute over top peoples' pay before the summer recess, where presentation was said to be at fault.

Alerted to potential danger areas, Mr Tebbit will then bring in the Conservative publicity department to help prepare the ground for announcements.

Conservative Central Office, which has often been kept in the dark about government intentions, is being geared up for its new role.

"Instead of reacting to things, which has often been the case in the past, this new strategy will enable Central Office to keep ahead of things," one senior Tory said.

"What Central Office has not previously realized and is now beginning to, is that policies by themselves, however right, do not win people, let alone elections. You have to get into a situation where people can be won over."

Apart from the new double act of Mr Tebbit and Mr Jeffrey Archer, already nicknamed "The A-Team", other key people involved in the new offensive are Sir Anthony Garner, who is responsible for party organization, and Mr Harvey Thomas, the recently-appointed director of communications.

£3bn sale of arms agreed with Saudis

By Rodney Cowton

Defence Correspondent

Britain's biggest defence sales contract, to supply Saudi Arabia with aircraft and weapons worth about £3 billion, has been agreed in principle.

The agreement is understood to be not only for the supply of Tornados long-range attack aircraft and Hawk trainer jet aircraft, but also for some of Britain's most advanced weapons to be carried on the Tornado.

It is thought the deal is in three parts, each worth about £1 billion. The first is for the supply of 48 Tornados and 30 Hawk trainers, the second for training and technical support and the third for missiles and other weapons.

The weapons are understood to include the Sea Eagle air-to-surface missile and the Alamo anti-radiation missile, both produced by British Aerospace, and the JP-233 bomb system produced by Hunting Group for attacking enemy airfields. All are in production or development for the Royal Air Force.

The agreement is a defeat for France, which 18 months ago had been confident of winning the order. It builds on an earlier success, because British Aerospace has a long-term support agreement with the Royal Saudi Air Force, reckoned to have been worth £1.3 billion since 1973.

Britain has recently had a Challenger tank and the MCV-80 armoured infantry combat vehicle in Saudi Arabia on demonstration, and hopes remain of winning orders in that area.

The agreement, believed to involve substantial offset purchases to be signed later this month when the Saudi Defence Minister, Prince Sultan, visits London. The deal is only the second export order for Tornados. The first, signed last month and worth about £230 million was for the sale of eight air defence versions of the aircraft to Oman.

Israel yesterday denounced the agreement and accused Britain of undermining the stability of the Middle East (Reuters reports from Jerusalem).

Open undermined, page 21

Shah ready for talks with NGA leader

By Our Labour Reporter

The National Graphical Association is seeking representation on the new national newspaper planned by Mr Eddy Shah, whose court action in 1983 led to the seizure of the print union's funds.

The NGA's national council decided to request talks with Mr Shah six weeks ago, but the letter calling for negotiations was sent only last week after the TUC's annual conference.

The Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union (EETPU) has won sole bargaining rights on the new paper to be launched next March, but Mr Tony Dubbins, the NGA general secretary, is seeking a presence in the production departments.

Mr Shah has indicated that he would be prepared to talk to Mr Dubbins.

The letter to Mr Shah is conciliatory in tone and refers to the mass demonstrations at his Stockport Messenger group, after which the union paid nearly £1 million in fines, damages and costs, as "earlier problems" which should not mar future relationships.

The Electricalians' deal also contains elements to which the NGA is officially opposed.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$15; Belgium 8.50; Canada \$20.75; Denmark 12.50; France 10.00; Germany 12.50; Greece 10.00; Hong Kong 12.50; India 10.00; Italy 10.00; Japan 12.50; Korea 10.00; Lebanon 10.00; Mexico 10.00; New Zealand 12.50; Norway 10.00; Pakistan 10.00; Portugal 10.00; Singapore 10.00; Spain 10.00; Sweden 10.00; Switzerland 10.00; Taiwan 10.00; Thailand 10.00; USA \$15.75; Venezuela \$15.00.

THE rather snobbish image associated with shooting sticks tends to obscure the fact that they are actually extremely useful accessories - making it possible to watch outdoor sport or activity without the discomfort of sitting on cold, hard and possibly damp ground. Their usefulness extends far beyond horse races and game shoots, being invaluable at school sports days, amateur football and cricket matches etc.

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Expert advice ignored in proposal to decentralize Aids laboratory network

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government has ignored warnings from its professional advisers that its proposal to break up the Public Health Service Laboratory (PHSL) network would badly hamper the fight against Aids and other deadly infectious diseases. It has also refused to publish a dissenting report by two internationally renowned microbiologists appointed to advise the Department of Health and Social Services inquiry, which has concluded that central responsibility for the 52 PHSL laboratories across the country should be ended and transferred individually to local health authorities.

The aim is to cut the £37 million a year cost of running the service.

Professor Ian Phillips and Dr Robert Blowers, the two advisers, concluded that the consequences for preventive medicine of such a move would be "disastrous".

They have claimed that when their opposition became clear during the inquiry's proceedings their role was relegated to that of giving advice only on technical aspects and not on the overall future of the service.

The laboratories co-ordinate infectious disease action across the country. They are credited with having had a big influence in reducing the incidence of typhoid, whooping cough, tuberculosis, diphtheria and other diseases since the Second World War, and have recently been involved on work to control Aids, Legionnaires' disease and outbreaks of salmonella infection.

In their minority report the two advisers state that the inquiry team's work was hampered because it was composed entirely of DHSS administrative staff.

They concluded: "The team has failed to appreciate the human and economic importance of preventive medicine as a complement to curative medicine."

They state that, because it concerns communicable disease, microbiology is one of the few hospital services that provide information for the benefit of the whole population.

Local health authorities and staff are experienced in the administration and practice of day-to-day patient care but they are of limited experience and organizationally unsuited to dealing quickly and effectively with problems of communicable disease which call for rapid and direct contact and for action beyond their own areas of authority. The transfer would lead to a fragmented service for dealing with national problems.

The two experts add they are not convinced that the transfer would yield the economies the Government wants. They state: "The destruction of an eminently successful and internationally admired service, if it must occur for financial reasons, would need to be justified by detailed analysis of cost and cost effectiveness of the present and proposed new system. If this has been done, which we doubt, the findings do not appear in the report."

They add that when they had asked for their views to be published in the report they had been refused.

Moves to launch an all-party campaign to save the service in its present form were launched last week at the Social Democratic Party annual conference in Torquay when Mr Charles Kennedy, its spokesman on social services, described the plan as a "national scandal".

He said: "Infectious diseases do not contain themselves within convenient administrative areas. The combating of Aids cannot be achieved by turning to the appropriate inquiry. These proposals are sheer folly and yet another example of just how drastic and damaging the frantic search for still more cuts within the NHS budget at the expense of patient care has become."

Court orders man to remain in hospital

A man suffering from Aids has been detained in hospital on the orders of a court. Manchester city magistrates made the order after an application by Dr Anna Elizabeth Jones, the city's medical officer for environmental health.

The order was granted under the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act, 1984, after Dr Jones told the court that the man, aged 29, from Manchester, who is in Munsall Isolation Hospital, had "an infectious disease".

Dr Jones told the court: "I wish to apply for the patient's detention because he had indicated a wish to leave the hospital. In the opinion of myself and a consultant at the hospital this would be very dangerous."

Mr Thomas Jones, the magistrate, told the doctor: "We give you powers to keep this man in hospital for three weeks."

The Terence Higgins Trust, set up to help Aids victims, later criticized the action as outrageous.

"The detention was made under legislation drafted by Kenneth Clarke, designed to be used only in rare and exceptional cases where a patient is dangerously infectious."

The trust said it was seeking legal advice to fight the decision.

Women's job to watch boy

Two women have been employed by Hampshire County Council to keep watch on a boy aged nine who has contracted the antibody to the Aids agent while receiving treatment for haemophilia.

They will take it in turns to keep him under observation from the moment he arrives at Scantabout Primary School, Chichester, until he leaves to go home.

The boy is one of 30 haemophiliacs treated with blood from a Bournemouth man who died from Aids.

Pupils at the school risk becoming infected only by direct blood-to-blood contact with the boy. The women have been employed to take action if the boy cuts himself, or starts bleeding.

Details of the boy's infection have been given to parents of the other children.

Council curb on barn conversions

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Conversions of historic barns into homes have in general proved visually damaging and should no longer be permitted, Essex County Council has decided.

Five years ago the council published a booklet to encourage new uses for the county's large stock of disused barns, many of them listed as of historic or architectural interest.

But it has now had second thoughts. "Experience has shown that the conversion of barns into dwellings is potentially one of the most damaging ways of re-using these important historic structures," it says in a new report.



Mr John Wakeham, Government Chief Whip, and his wife, Alison, who were married last July, leaving yesterday for a honeymoon in Jamaica. They will return for the Conservative Party conference.

Kerb crawl law in force today

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Kerb crawling has today become an offence with a maximum fine of £400. The Sexual Offences Act bans men from soliciting women for prostitution from a motor vehicle.

It is now an offence to kerb crawl either persistently or, once the Crown Prosecution Service is in being, in a manner which is likely to cause annoyance to the woman solicited or nuisance to people in the neighbourhood.

It is also an offence to solicit women in the street persistently for the purpose of prostitution, even if a motor vehicle is not used. The fine for both offences is a maximum of £400.

The Act also increases the maximum penalty for two serious offences against women. The maximum for attempted rape rises from seven years to life. The maximum for indecent assault on a woman rose from two years, or five years if the victim is under 13, to 10 years' imprisonment in all cases.

The new law on kerb crawling comes after a campaign by Miss Janet Fookes, Conservative MP for Plymouth, Drake. She introduced the Sexual Offences Bill to try to eliminate "virtual no-go areas" in some towns where women had feared to go because of harassment by men looking for prostitutes.

She was also concerned about the nuisance to residents in some neighbourhoods. There was an injustice, "that women offering their services are subject to penalties, whereas the men who seek them generally get off scot free."

Streetwise, page 12

Many wives say they had affairs

More than a third of wives (38 per cent) admitted that they had had affairs and more than half (57 per cent), at some point, had thought about leaving their husbands, according to a survey published today.

Nowadays, it says, women are more independent, with 67 per cent going to work. They are less likely to see marriage as the only option, 56 per cent saying they would not remarry if divorced.

Almost three quarters in the Woman's World Survey had at least one child, yet only 27 per cent said they would stay in an unhappy marriage for the sake of the children, the same number who said they would put up with things for the sake of financial security.

Sales boom for frozen seafoods

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Sales of frozen "speciality" seafoods, namely shellfish, trout and salmon, have doubled in volume and tripled in value in the past five years, according to a report published today.

Prawns, worth an estimated £27 million this year, account for more than half the market, followed by scampi (£15 million, 28 per cent), trout (£4.3 million, 8 per cent), other shellfish (£3.4 million, 7 per cent) and salmon (£2.7 million, 5 per cent).

The report, by Young's Seafoods, part of the Grand Metropolitan group, is said to be the first of its kind to be published.

TOTAL SPECIALITY SEAFOOD MARKET		
	(£m)	Volume '000 tons
1980	17.3	4.5
	+28%	+22%
1981	24.2	6.1
	+40%	+36%
1982	29.1	6.7
	+20%	+10%
1983	35.9	7.3
	+23%	+9%
1984	40.9	7.9
	+14%	+6%
1985	52.4	8.6
(Projected)	+28%	+21%

Source: Young's Seafoods.

Liver transplant girl 'stable'

Rebecca Heyworth, aged four, was in a stable condition last night after a liver transplant operation at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

A virus infection contracted in May caused her liver to fail and her father, Mr Christopher Heyworth, of Blackpool, made a countrywide appeal for a liver donor when her condition began to deteriorate.



Inflated view of Liberty

A 35ft high inflatable Statue of Liberty is the latest creation of a partnership of two men based in Huntingfield, in Suffolk.

Mr Rob Harris and Mr Keith Payne, who call themselves Air Artists, have made the statue for the Barnum and Bailey Circus in the United States. It will be the centre piece for the circus in 1986, the centenary of the real statue in New York.

(Photograph: Peter Everard Smith)

Frustration of nurses in mental hospitals

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The pressure of work on student nurses in mental hospitals and their disillusionment with standards of care are highlighted in a national survey published today.

More than half the nurses in the survey considered leaving their jobs at some point in their training for those reasons.

Their disillusionment was aggravated by frustration at being used as "pairs of hands", at not being able to implement ideas and the attitudes of other staff.

The research, funded by the Department of Health and Social Security between 1981 and 1983, was conducted by the department of social policy and social work at York University.

The main findings include a lack of understanding of mental handicap as a specialism in teacher training and the need for improvements. Difficulties are created by out-of-date knowledge and institutional attitudes, the report says.

How nurses learn: A National Study of the Training of Nurses in Mental Handicap (from the researchers at the University of York, Heslington, York YO1 5DD; £8.50).

Dispute on equal opportunity

A complaint of sexual discrimination brought against the Equal Opportunities Commission by one of its commissioners is to be heard by an industrial tribunal in Glasgow today.

Professor Angela Bowey, from Arrochar, Dunbartonshire, the Scottish commissioner for the EOC, claims she was discriminated against when she applied for the post of its chief executive and a man was appointed.

Airport fire victims' compensation claims to be lodged in US

From Peter Davenport, Manchester

The legal battle to win compensation for the victims of the Manchester airport Boeing 737 disaster now seems set to be fought in two separate actions before courts in the United States, with the first action being lodged within weeks.

In both cases the American lawyers representing the families of the 55 holidaymakers who died, as well as those injured, will be seeking to establish product liability and secure punitive damages against Pratt and Whitney, maker of the engines on the ill-fated British Airways holiday jet, and Boeing.

If successful the cases are likely to bring damages running into many millions of dollars for each of the claimants, much more than they could hope to achieve by bringing actions before the British courts.

If preliminary allegations already being made by one of the American lawyers, a leading authority on aircraft litigation, are any indication, the aircraft manufacturing industry could be in for a rough ride.

Mr Daniel Cathcart, a California attorney called in as adviser by a group of English solicitors preparing damage claims, says that the aircraft manufacturers have been negligent in failing to adopt safety improvements developed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) after the fatal Apollo launchpad fire in 1968.

After consultations with the solicitors in Manchester last week, Mr Cathcart said: "I think I can show negligence on the part of the aircraft industry."

The Federal Aviation Administration has urged the upgrading of cabin materials, the US Congress has investigated the issue and there has been a great hullabaloo, but nothing has been done.

"I hope to show that the aircraft was defective in design

Flyers put comfort before safety

The spate of air disasters in the summer has had little effect on seasoned flyers, a survey in the *Executive Travel* magazine disclosed today. Regular air travellers are more concerned with reaching their destination on time, and in comfort, than aircraft safety, according to the survey.

Only 9 per cent of 5,000 travellers questioned thought safety was a priority when choosing an airline. Among those questioned six had been hijacked, 53 had experienced cases of engine blow-out during flight or locked landing gear and 11 were in aircraft struck by lightning. Thirty-eight per cent put in-flight service as their top priority.

and construction and that damages awarded will be so substantial that the industry will realize it is cheaper to keep people alive than it is to kill them."

Mr Cathcart, a qualified pilot, is a veteran of air crash litigation. The highest damages he succeeded in winning were of \$22 million in 1972.

He was called in by Mr Roger Pannone, a Manchester-based solicitor and a member of the Council of the Law Society, who has formed a partnership with a Sheffield lawyer to specialize in disaster claims.

Air-India inquiry

A preliminary hearing on the investigations into the Air-India Boeing 747 disaster off the south-west coast of Ireland in June will be held in Delhi today, at which it is expected a date will be fixed for the opening of the judicial inquiry.

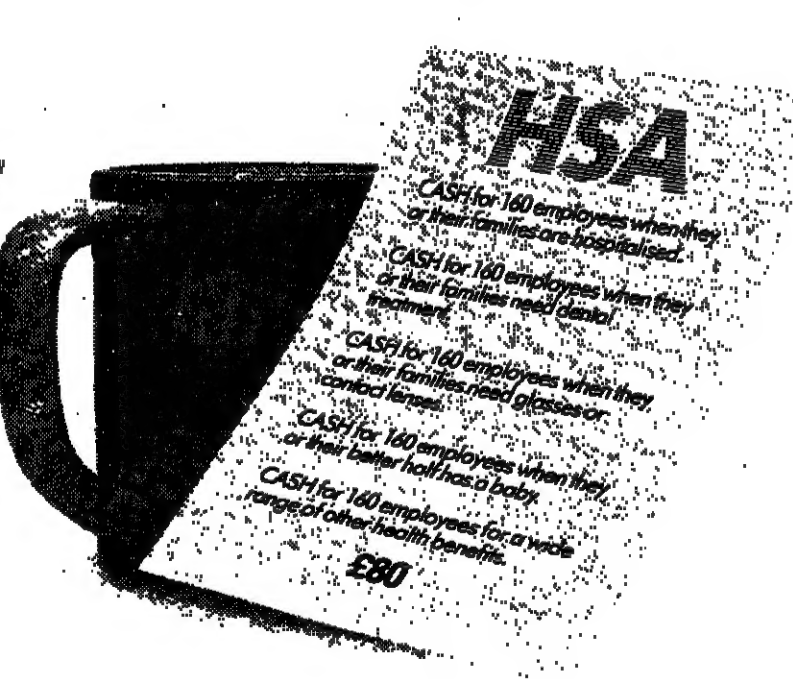
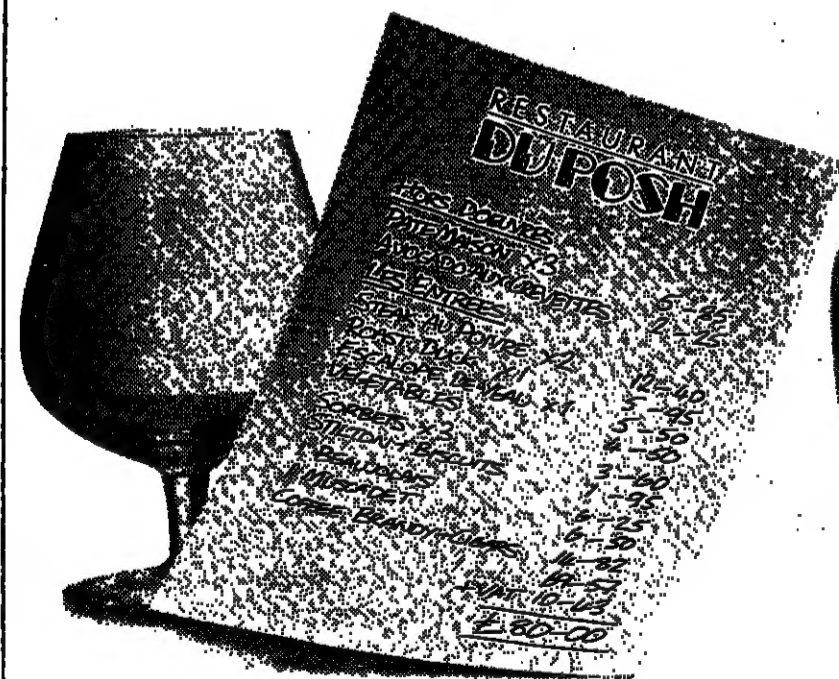
The inquiry on the 131 victims whose bodies have been recovered opens in Cork tomorrow. A total of 329 people were killed.

JAL crash inquiry page 5

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Ulster prospects: 1

Confidence in revival of business

Industry in Northern Ireland, reinforced by large sums of government money, believes that it is on the verge of a more prosperous future. EDWARD TOWNSEND, Our Industrial Correspondent, in the first of two articles, investigates.

"There is a new mood of confidence in Northern Ireland, the best at least since the mid-1960s, and considerably more stability in both security and economic terms."

That is the optimistic view of Mr John McAllister, aged 44, the Civil Servant who took over as chief executive at the Northern Ireland Industrial Development Board this month.

In spite of suffering the highest unemployment rate in the United Kingdom and the province's chronically persistent image of being controlled by the gun, Mr McAllister and leading industrialists are convinced that Ulster is on the threshold of a business revival.

It is an optimism based on a significant slowing of the increase in unemployment and a consistent rise in business confidence. Further impetus has been provided by the improving fortunes of shipbuilding and aircraft manufacture, the arrival of the first Japanese company and a Hong Kong textile firm, and by the growing success of small enterprises.

On the debit side is the ever-present threat of violence and social disruption, and unemployment. At the end of August, there were 85,759 men out of work, 25.8 per cent of the male



Mr Saxon Tate, first chief executive of IDB

working population, and 34,313 women (13.8 per cent). This compares with 58,082 men (17.5 per cent) and 30,362 women (12.3 per cent) in 1980.

But things are showing signs of getting better, or at least not getting worse. In the year ending May 1985, unemployment rose by just 0.2 per cent, compared with 8.2 per cent and 6.5 per cent in the UK's relatively prosperous South-west and South-east.

Further evidence of the high level of activity in the local economy can be seen in Belfast where more than £60 million has been invested in new shopping areas.

Mr McAllister, who takes over from Mr Saxon Tate, the IDB's first chief executive, assumes the role at a crucial time. After years of decline and bad publicity, as seen in the spectacular collapses of DeLorean and Lear Fan, the IDB has shown in its first three

years that it has the potential to be a force for change.

IDB-assisted employment accounts for 45 per cent of Northern Ireland's manufacturing labour, which in June stood at 101,020 out of a total working population of 463,180. But the task remains formidable.

Mr McAllister will have to ensure that the momentum is accelerated and implement the IDB's five-year strategy for the years up to 1990. This, for the first time, lays down a blueprint for Northern Ireland's regeneration, with high priority given to exports, the development and expansion of existing companies and continued inward investment.

The strategy will continue to be backed by some of the most lucrative state aid on offer in the United Kingdom regions, and possible in Europe.

The Local Enterprise Development Unit for Ulster, handling projects creating fewer than 50 jobs, claims to have promoted 23,000 jobs in small firms in the past 14 years, and the IDB, in three years, has promoted more than 12,000.

But, on the debit side, these efforts have done little to dent unemployment. Mr McAllister and business leaders agree they face a constant uphill struggle and that the picture of a war-torn region is the fiercest brake on industrial development.

Tomorrow: The Japanese arrival

IDB IMPACT ON JOBS

	Number Promoted	Number in new companies	Number renewed and maintained
1981	3,305	608	8,707
1982	1,675	479	9,839
1983	3,791	524	7,983
1984	3,556	1,254	14,271
1985	5,267	942	14,979

Average hourly cost of industrial labour

	Basic £	Total* £
Northern Ireland	3.17	4.31
France	2.57	4.31
Great Britain	3.24	4.41
Japan	3.79	4.40
Belgium	3.21	5.01
Sweden	3.45	5.57
Holland	3.49	5.57
Germany	3.75	6.45
Switzerland	4.71	6.92
Canada	5.68	7.33
US	6.07	8.38

*Includes national insurance and optional extras.



A member of the 300-member musical company, including the Inner London Education Authority Schools Symphony Orchestra, rehearsing at the Pimlico School, south London, yesterday with George Benjamin, the composer. His work *Jubilation*, will be played at the Festival Hall today (Photograph: Suresh Karadia)

TUC puts five-point plan for industry

By Barrie Clement

A five-point strategy for rebuilding British industry is proposed today by the TUC.

A briefing paper drawn up by economists at Congress House urges the Government to boost investment and says that present policy will lead to "a low productivity, low growth economy with an even more deeply divided labour market".

Wealth should be created via a national investment bank, the expansion of regional and local initiatives and the reintroduction of exchange controls to prevent capital flowing abroad.

The TUC also calls for greater emphasis on research and development in sectors outside the defence industry.

It says that stimulus should be given to the spread of new technology by selective aid and expansion of the "support for innovation" scheme.

A highly skilled and flexible workforce could be created by the development of the Youth Training Scheme, the creation of further educational opportunities for adults and the unemployed and the introduction of equal opportunities for women, ethnic minorities and the disabled, the paper says.

The labour movement is also seeking a trade strategy in which economic growth is not checked by "a flood of imports". Import controls and an exchange rate for sterling which is more competitive against European currencies and the Japanese yen would form part of the policy.

Abolition urged for property agency

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

A Conservative MP is demanding the abolition of the Property Services Agency, the Government's building maintenance department, which has been affected by repeated corruption scandals.

Mr Francis Maude, MP for Warwickshire North, believes the vast array of jobs carried out by the PSA, ranging from supplying red carpets for the Queen to supplying desks for Civil Servants, should be given to the private sector.

In a letter to Sir George Young, a junior minister at the Department of Environment, he describes the PSA as a "large and unwieldy organisation".

The root cause of the difficulties are lack of commercial "sound" organisation, he says. "The only solution now is to abolish the PSA in its present form and allow its tasks to be performed by smaller, more commercial and competitive organisations in the private sector."

Mr Maude writes "This socialist experiment in public administration of property has proved inadequate to the task and is a failure. It should now be abandoned. It is clear from the evidence and from practical experience that abolition will provide the only effective and efficient solution to the problems of the PSA."

A year ago the influential Commons public accounts committee gave the Government 12 months to "root out" the bribes, swindles and corruption within its "property store." Admitted fraud losses of £860,000 between 1979 and 1983 were "only the tip of the iceberg," the committee said.

In spite of a crackdown, a further 69 cases of alleged fraud were reported in 1984 and Mr Maude says they are a "symptom of the unsatisfactory form of commercial and business organization which the PSA exemplifies."

Vets' caution on animal welfare

By Our Veterinary Correspondent

Animal welfare again dominated the British Veterinary Association congress, which ended at Exeter on Saturday. The association is attempting to chart a middle course in debates on animal experimentation, intensive farming, and field sports.

It has just published, with the Animal Welfare Foundation, a booklet called "Priorities in Animal Welfare", which, it hopes will stimulate informed discussion on the subject. Perhaps of greater long-term significance is a decision by the foundation to fund a chair in animal welfare, the first in the world, at the veterinary school of Cambridge University.

The move aims to integrate existing knowledge and launch new studies, which could provide a more scientific basis for arguments that are often over emotional.

Mr N. King, chairman of the foundation, hopes that the Cambridge centre will examine, for example, new trends in animal husbandry

Students to get 1,000 computers

From Our Correspondent Belfast

A total of 1,000 personal computers are to be installed at Queen's University, Belfast, at a cost of £1 million, in what is thought to be the biggest computer literacy programme launched by any university in the United Kingdom.

The five-year programme, jointly funded by the provincial Department of Education and the Northern Ireland Industrial Development Board, will begin with the first installations during the new academic year, which starts next month.

The computers will be for the use of all undergraduates, as well as post-graduate researchers, staff and extra-mural students attending short courses. Queen's at present has an enrolment of 7,500 students. Special Report on Queen's University, pages 17-19

59 arrests

Fifty-nine arrests were made over the weekend after 2,500 motor-scooter riders arrived at Weston-super-Mare, Avon, for their annual rally.

Bishop issues warning over 'moving statues'

A Roman Catholic bishop yesterday called for caution over the Irish Republic's "moving statues" as the number of reported sightings this year passed the 30 mark.

The Bishop of Killala in Co Mayo, Dr Thomas McDonnell, said the incidents had to be regarded as psychic phenomena until sure signs of a supernatural source were found.

He spoke out as preparations were being made in a parish nearby for a vigil last night by up to 10,000 people at a spot

where four teenage girls said they saw a vision of the Virgin Mary and St Bernadette.

Similar prayer meetings, some of them attracting tens of thousands of Roman Catholic faithful, are being held almost daily at towns and villages throughout the republic where apparitions have been reported.

The best known apparition has been at the Co Cork village of Ballinspittle, where a statue of the Virgin Mary was said to have been seen to shift and sway last July.

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JAL crash investigators confirm faulty repairs by Boeing team

From David Watts, Tokyo

Metal fatigue in the rear cabin pressure bulkhead may have contributed to the Japan Airlines 747 crash last month in which 520 people were killed.

Releasing their second interim report on the accident, officials of the Transport Ministry published enlarged photographs of a replica of the metal fatigue on the bulkhead and have confirmed the faulty repairs which Boeing had earlier admitted.

One of the theories about the crash is that explosive failure of the bulkhead caused the loss of the vertical tail fin after which the plane became virtually uncontrollable. The investigators, however, say it is too early to identify the cause of the crash.

In fact, Boeing has been so angered at the slow speed of the inquiry and the lack of access to information and the crash site

that it issued its own statement on faulty repairs to the 747 carried out by a Boeing team after the aircraft made a heavy landing at Osaka in 1978.

The team had spliced new sections into the bulkhead after that incident but the riveting was carried out incorrectly.

With more than 650 Boeing 747s in service, Boeing was anxious to identify the cause quickly, both to put in hand any necessary modifications and to set operators minds at rest.

The Japanese were angered by this and this weekend's interim report was brought forward as a result of the Boeing announcement.

The Japanese seem to be not so much interested in finding out what happened as in fixing the blame for it," said a foreign expert.

"They've looked on it all along as their crash and their

investigation when what is needed is the deployment of the maximum expertise available wherever it may come from. It's better to find out what caused the crash first and then worry about whose fault it was."

The ministry will start airlifting the bulkhead and other parts back to Tokyo this week for closer examination. The commission is also asking audio experts to identify the cause of the two bangs heard on the tape.

Meanwhile, specially equipped boats are scouring Sagami Bay for parts of the tail station which came away before the crash.

Checks carried out on 69 Boeing 747s operated by four airlines in Japan showed 26 had faults in their tail sections including 15 cracked rivets and bolts and cracked vertical stabilizer.

China uses Muslim link to win Arab investment

Peking - Ningxia, one of China's five autonomous regions, is joining the rest of the country in wooing the foreign investor (Mary Lee writes). While the four special economic zones in the south-east are drawing on their wealthy overseas Chinese cousins for help, this poor, remote region, where the 1.3 million Hui (Muslims) form a third of the population, is counting on its Islamic links with the oil-rich Arab countries to attract development funds.

One hundred and fifty representatives, mainly from the Middle East, are taking part in a symposium on international co-operation with Islamic countries, which opened in Yinchuan, capital of Ningxia, yesterday.

Their hosts will show traditionally overwhelming Chinese hospitality to the potential investors. Stress will be laid on religious freedom and the Communist Party's ideological profile will be played down.

Messages of welcome in Arabic script adorn the capital. The visitors will attend the opening of an Islamic college and see a recently restored street - with Han (Chinese) restaurants on one side and Muslim ones on the other - especially designed, according to my guide on a recent visit, "to attract tourists from Islamic countries."

Chairman Wei Boli, head of the regional Government, will probably use his Muslim name, Haji Hussein, while the visitors are in town. Mr Hui led a 14-member delegation of Ningxia Muslims to Pakistan, Egypt, North Yemen, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates last April with the message that "many people in Ningxia believe in Allah piously", according to Mr Xu Zhi, the region's director of foreign economic relations and trade.

Delegates to this week's symposium will also be taken to visit - and possibly worship in - at least one of Yinchuan's four main mosques. The four



Imam Ding Zhangfeng (centre), religious leader of Mai Lianqu village, near Yinchuan, is one of the few Chinese Muslims who can speak Arabic.

local religious leaders who speak Arabic will no doubt be present to give credence to Islamic solidarity.

To cultivate more sympathy for the plight of their Chinese Muslim brothers in Ningxia, the visitors might even be taken to the southern mountainous region where about 55,000 Hui families live in poverty.

According to Chinese press reports, many Hui in the Liupan Mountains live in crude caves as their ancestors did centuries ago. Conditions are improving, with work provided

by huge irrigation schemes and wheat from the United Nations' World Food Programme.

The gap between urban and rural incomes in Ningxia is dramatic, the average income of a town worker being more than double that of a peasant. The current Dengist policy of enriching some people first means that this wealth gap will be widened. Any foreign investment Ningxia gets will probably be channelled into existing industries.

Tomorrow: Allah and the Communists

Video porn ring is smashed in Canton

Peking (AP) - Police had arrested at least five people and seized more than 25,000 pornographic videotapes imported as "scientific material", the People's Daily reported yesterday.

Officers in Canton and Peking co-operated to smash a ring run by Zhao Naihua, the manager of a Canton-based company who "ignored the relevant state council directives."

The account did not elaborate on the content of the tapes or explain where they came from, but said Zhao conspired with a Canton scientific instrument company to import them and resell them for 130 yuan (£23) each.

Several local party officials have been reprimanded for failing to report the case and others accepted the tapes as bribes, the newspaper said.

"Pornographic videotapes are like spiritual opium, spiritual arsenic. Seeing them causes acute poisoning and great harm," the paper said in an accompanying commentary.

The Government bans books, films and magazines it considers sexually explicit and has disclosed dozens of seizures and arrests in the past few months.

"We must never forget that we engage in socialist enterprise with the ultimate goal of implementing communism," the commentary said. "Videotapes are a modern propaganda tool for education and should be used to promote patriotism, socialism and communism."

Marcos minister appeals for ceasefire

Manila - For the first time, a senior minister in the Philippines Government has called for a ceasefire in the 16-year Communist insurgency, to "arrest the country's slide to a bloody and costly civil war" (Keith Dalton writes).

The proposal by the Labour Minister, Mr Glas Opel, who also suggested that the Red Cross initiate peace talks, came

as the Defence Minister, Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, announced that the country's 200,000-strong armed forces would be expanded by another 11 battalions next year.

He also ordered an inquiry into what happened as US Senate investigators the US security had allowed Communist guerrillas access to America's Subic Bay naval base, making it, and

Clarke Air Base nearby, vulnerable to rebel attacks.

The acting armed forces chief, Lieutenant-General Fidel Ramos, however, denied that guerrillas had penetrated the outer perimeter of the navy base. Claims of destroyed boundary fences and abandoned guard towers at the air base were also wrong, he said.

Snub to Zia over immunity Bill

MPs refuse to act as regime's puppets

From Michael Hamlyn, Islamabad

Pakistan's fledgling Parliament has inflicted a significant defeat on the martial law regime of General Zia ul-Haq.

The National Assembly has compelled the Government to suspend debate on a Bill which, in its present form, indemnifies the martial law regime for any action it has taken in the past or may take in the future, which enshrines the legislative acts of the regime into the constitution of the country and which its critics claim will continue martial law under civilian rule even after it is technically lifted.

The assembly, brought into being by General Zia as part of a strictly-controlled return to democracy after seven years of his one-man rule, has shown a number of times that it is not prepared to be a simple puppet of the generals.

The members belonging to both government supporters and opposition have this weekend made it clear that they are not prepared to accept the indemnity Bill.

The group of supporters of the Prime Minister, Mr Muhammad Khan Junejo, who have become known as the Official Parliamentary Group, have held meetings to present alternative forms of words to the Prime Minister.

Yesterday they had not yet been made public but, according to former General Abdul Majid, a member of the group's committee, they are not minor changes, but will "require major surgery".

Another smaller band of members, who call themselves the Independent Parliamentary Group, want a time limit on the orders indemnified, ending on

March 23, 1985, the date the assembly was constituted.

They also want the legislative changes and constitutional innovations of the martial law regime not to continue unless approved by Parliament.

Mr Junejo met the independents at the weekend and promised to consider their suggestions. Meanwhile, further discussion of the indemnity Bill was adjourned.

Another still smaller group of members is implacably opposed to the Bill and fears that a compromise within the spirit of the Bill will sell out the 1973 constitution.

The next problem the assembly will face is a law to re-establish political parties, which is expected to be presented in this session. The members are not likely to be so united on this question.

The extra-parliamentary opposition, those parties belonging to the Movement for Restoration of Democracy (MRD), fear that registration will be used as a tool to keep them illegal.

It begins to look as though the Movement may break up over the issue. One of its main constituents, the Tehrik Istiqbal, of General Asghar Khan, is making noises about leaving the group in preparation, its opponents say, to becoming legal.

The Movement is, in any case, inactive at present. Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, the Sind leader of the Pakistan People's Party, founded by the late Prime Minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, said that his party intends to take General Zia at his word and wait for him to lift martial law as promised.

Tamils bow to Delhi pressure

From Richard Ford, Delhi

With the deadline for the end of the official ceasefire in Sri Lanka set for tomorrow, Tamil militants have finally accepted an invitation to meet Mr Rajiv Gandhi to discuss a "working paper" aimed at reopening talks on the island's ethnic problems.

The Indian Prime Minister has been waiting for a response from the militant groups for more than a week as violence on the island increased. One of the reasons for the delay was said to be that the representative of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam was in hiding. Most observers, however, believe it was Tamil pique at the deportation of two of its leading figures.

A delegation from Sri Lanka was in Delhi last week discussing the working paper drawn up at the abortive Thimpu peace talks last month.

The Eelam National Liberation Front, comprising the leaders of four Tamil militant groups, is expected to meet Mr Gandhi later this week. The discussions will also involve senior Indian Foreign Office officials.

● COLOMBO: President Jayewardene, addressing the executive committee of his party, said that the Sri Lankan security forces were fighting a "big war" in the Trincomalee area of the Eastern Province against Tamil separatist guerrillas. In certain areas around Trincomalee, he said, rebels were in total control (our correspondent writes).

Terror alert for Gandhi's Punjab tour

From Richard Ford, Delhi

The Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, starts an election tour of Punjab this morning amid unprecedented security arrangements to protect him from terrorist attack.

Mr Gandhi will be in the north Indian state, where 85,000 members of the security forces are on duty, to support Congress (I) candidates standing for seats in the state assembly and Lok Sabha (lower house) of Parliament.

Extra police have been drafted in as armed guards for candidates whose homes are like fortresses. The many intersections on roads are patrolled by armed police. The effect is to remind people of what the state was like after Operation Blue Star last year when the Army entered the Golden Temple at Amritsar to clear out Sikh extremists.

The Indian-Pakistan border from Gujarat to Kashmir has been put under the control of the Army which is also patrolling eight miles on the Indian side to stop terrorist infiltration.

For extra security, the Prime Minister is expected to travel by helicopter rather than the Jeep he favoured during campaigning in last December's general election. Security advisers have been in the state since last week checking the venues where he is to speak.

Five bullet-proof podiums have been sent on ahead of the Prime Minister who, it is understood, now wears a bullet-proof vest.

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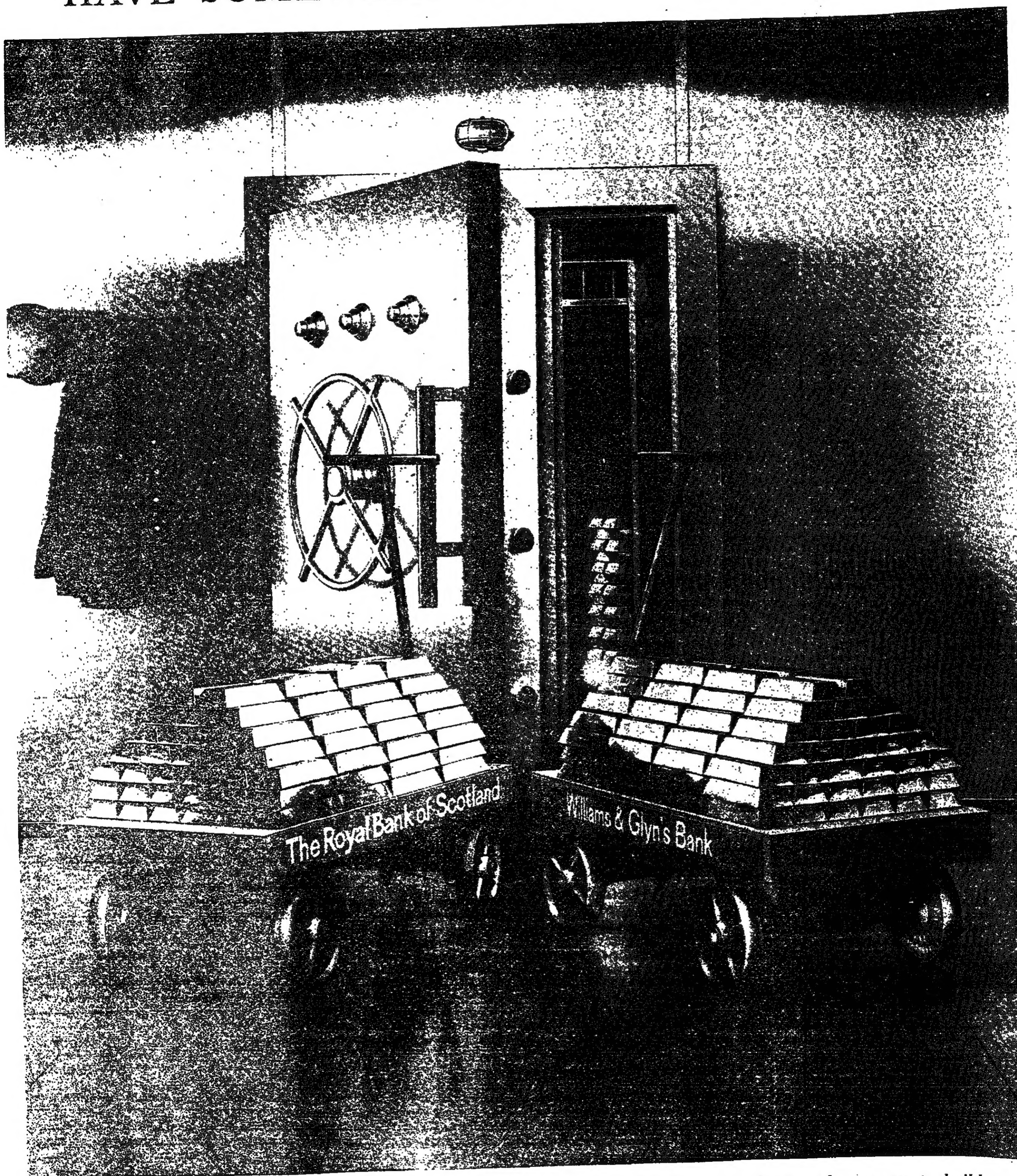
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Nigeria poised to reopen negotiations on £2.5bn loan from IMF

From Our Own Correspondent, Lagos

President Babangida of Nigeria is expected to give the green light soon to renewed negotiations with the International Monetary Fund for a \$2.5 billion (£1.8 billion) loan which the country's Western creditors believe is essential for its economic recovery.

He faces stiff opposition, however, from sections of the 30-member armed forces ruling council and from trade unions, students and other groups opposed to the loan on ideological as well as economic and social grounds.

The clearest indication of President Babangida's intentions came at the end of last week when he told his new Cabinet that he intended to make a "reassessment of the value of the naira", Nigeria's greatly over-valued currency. The IMF has insisted on a devaluation as a condition of the loan. The previous Government had refused to accept its terms.

Two key appointments to his

22-member Cabinet - Dr Kalu Kalu as Finance Minister and Mr Tam David-West as Petroleum Minister, the post he held in the previous Government - also suggest that President Babangida intends to resume negotiations. Both are known to favour the IMF deal.

Immediately after last month's coup which brought him to power, General Babangida announced that he would hold a national debate on the loan.

That debate has already begun in the press, where sentiment is still strongly opposed to the loan. One leading government-owned newspaper last week urged the new leadership not to succumb to pressure from Western governments and capitalist institutions but to opt for "economic nationalism and self-reliance".

Some papers also criticized Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary who paid a two-day visit to Lagos last week, for

linking acceptance of the IMF loan to a resumption of medium-term credit cover by Britain's Export Credits Guarantee Department.

Sir Geoffrey denied that Britain was trying to force Nigeria to reach an agreement with the IMF but admitted that such a deal "would help us to give more help to Nigeria".

Because of the continued strong opposition, it is likely that President Babangida will ask the IMF to attach less onerous conditions.

In addition to an immediate 60 per cent devaluation of the naira, the IMF has also demanded an end to petroleum subsidies and an easing of import restrictions. As there has been an effective 20 per cent drop in the naira against the dollar in the past six months, President Babangida could, for instance, ask the IMF to agree to a smaller devaluation.

This would enable him to present an agreement as a victory for his administration.

Thatcher flies out to revive peace plan

By Edward Mortimer

Mrs Margaret Thatcher leaves this afternoon for a four-day visit to Egypt and Jordan, during which she will attempt to stoke the dying embers of the Middle East "peace process". She will be the first British Prime Minister since Churchill to visit Egypt while in office, and the first to visit Jordan.

Officials at 10 Downing Street emphasize that the visit, including extended talks with President Mubarak and then with King Hussein, stems from long-standing invitations to both countries and does not betoken any "British initiative".

It is normal for the Prime Minister to make a foreign trip at this time of year, and the south-east corner of the Mediterranean is one of the few areas of the world she has not yet visited in six years of office.

At the same time it is admitted that her object in choosing these two countries is to indicate British support for moderate Arab governments and to encourage them to make further progress towards a peaceful settlement of the conflict with Israel.

A visit to Israel itself is "not beyond the realms of possibility", but first the Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, is expected in London early next year.

Mrs Thatcher will not be meeting any representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Amman, although she is likely to come under pressure from King Hussein to agree to a later meeting in London with a joint Jordan-Palestine delegation.

British policy is that ministers will not meet the PLO unless or until it clearly recognizes Israel's right to exist, although contacts at the official level are quite frequent.

In Cairo Mrs Thatcher will lay a wreath on the tomb of the late President Sadat. She will be accompanied on the tour by Mr Denis Thatcher and their daughter, Carol, as well as a senior Foreign Office official, Mr Stephen Egerton. They will be on the look-out for opportunities for British business, but this is of the primary purpose of the trip.

Leading article, page 15

18 Palestinians expelled

Jerusalem - Israel expelled 18 Palestinian former prisoners yesterday. They were among the 1,150 Palestinians released from Israel last June in exchange for three Israeli soldiers captured in Lebanon and held by Mr Ahmed Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command (David Bernstein writes).

They were sent into Jordan before dawn from a point on the border south of the Dead Sea in the Arava Valley.

An army spokesman said that they were not legally resident in Israel, or in the occupied territories. They had infiltrated illegally before being captured and convicted of serious security offences.

Football on sabbath reprieved

From David Bernstein Jerusalem

Israel's football season got off to its scheduled start on Saturday at the national stadium in Ramat Gan, despite strong opposition from religious parties to matches on the sabbath.

The mayor of the Tel Aviv satellite city, Mr Uri Amit, decided at the last minute to avoid a confrontation with the Israel Football Association, which was determined to hold the match in the refurbished stadium under the terms of the lease it had negotiated with Ramat Gan. He had decreed earlier that football must not be played in the stadium on the sabbath.

But Mr Amit gave a warning that the issue had not been resolved, and Saturday's game should not be seen as a precedent. The IFA has threatened to stop the entire league if the stadium is closed on the sabbath.

Mr Amit has been under strong pressure from his Labour Party leaders to ban the match to avoid alienating the small religious parties which back the Labour and Likud are assiduously courting as future coalition partners should the National Unity Government fall.

The religious parties, incensed by Mr Amit's capitulation have threatened retribution. The religious community "will find ways to get even, and more than even", Mr Menachem Porush of the ultra-orthodox Agudat Yisrael, said.



Sealing their fate in the Swedish general election yesterday. Mr Olaf Palme (left), the Prime Minister, Mr Ulf Adelsohn (centre), the Conservative leader, and Mr Bengt Westerberg, the Liberal chief, cast their votes.

Rebel clashes push Uganda towards war

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Uganda is threatened with civil war between the ruling Military Council and the National Resistance Army (NRA) after last week's breakdown of the ceasefire which had been in force since the July 27 coup.

The NRA, largest of the guerrilla groups which were fighting the Obote Government before the coup, controls a substantial area of western and south-western Uganda and has units entrenched near Kampala itself.

President Nyerere of Tanzania held secret talks in Dar es Salaam on Friday with the Ugandan Prime Minister, Mr Abraham Waligwa, and the NRA leader, Mr Yoweri Museveni, in an apparent effort to restore peace.

With more details of last week's clashes available, it is clear there was a large-scale confrontation between the

NRA and the Military Council.

The council admits that Army units were attacked at Kawana, near Kampala, and at Nbarara, 170 miles to the south-west. The NRA says that it also overwhelmed an army battalion at Nubende, 100 miles west of Kampala, and captured and held the Army depot at Mitanya, 41 miles from the capital, for two days.

Detainees released: Kenya has released a former deputy director of the country's intelligence services, Mr Stephen Muriithi, who was jailed after a 1982 coup attempt against President Moi (AFP reports).

The release left only two men still in detention in connection with the coup attempt - Mr Raia Odiga, son of the former Vice-President and opposition leader, Mr Jaramogi Oginga Odinga, and a journalist, Otieno Mak'onyango.

Asat triumph lifts US summit hopes

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The triumphant first test of an anti-satellite (Asat) weapon in space last Friday has substantially bolstered US confidence in its bargaining position at the Geneva summit. The November 19-20 encounter is likely to be dominated by President Reagan's controversial Star Wars research programme. Although the Administration insists that the project is not a bargaining chip, senior officials are reassessing America's response if the Soviet Union offers deep cuts in offensive nuclear weapons in return for limitations on the multi-billion dollar initiative.

Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, will hold preparatory talks with President Reagan in Washington on Friday week, a few days after meeting with Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, at the United Nations General Assembly in New York. Mr

Shevardnadze is expected to arrive in New York late this week.

These preliminary encounters have historically set the seal on the outcome of the 11 previous superpower summits. The next two months, therefore, are critical and the White House is likely to go out of its way not to upset relations further with the Kremlin. There will not, for instance, be another Asat test before the summit.

But there is considerable pressure by Washington for a government-to-government agreement with Britain on Star Wars before the summit. An American Star Wars delegation leaves London today after 10 days of high-level talks in Whitehall during which Britain demanded a substantial stake in the research programme in return for the extremely useful political prize of a formal government accord.

Three-term presidency backed by Reagan

Washington - President Reagan believes that the US Constitution should be changed to allow presidents to serve more than two terms, though he himself has no wish to tackle a third (Christopher Thomas writes).

The 23rd constitutional amendment, ratified in 1951, limits presidents to two terms. Its repeal would require a two-months vote of both Houses of Congress.

Mr Reagan, in off-the-cuff remarks confirmed by the White House, said that "the people ought to have a right to decide who their leadership would be".

Britons hurt

Lausanne (AP) - Mr Peter Richardson, aged 25, and Mr Gary Wetherill, aged 24, both of County Durham, are in hospital here after a train crash in western Switzerland that killed five Swiss and injured 56 people on Saturday.

Wheat order

Winnipeg (AFP) - The Soviet Union has placed its first order with Canada for 1985-86 wheat deliveries two months early. Unconfirmed reports say that the order is for 4.2 million tonnes.

Nazi legacy

Bonn (Reuters) - On the 50th anniversary of Hitler's racial Nuremberg laws, which deprived Jews of civil rights, leftists and rightists clashed with police in Neustadt. There were 14 arrests.

Cyclist killed

Graz, Austria (AP) - A motorcyclist who ran into the lead group of cyclists during a race hit the leading Austrian amateur Norbert Huber, aged 23, and killed him.



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Brazil oils its rusty democracy

From Sue Branford São Paulo

Brazil yesterday chalked up six months of democratic rule, a period which has seen a climate of freedom restored with lively debate throughout the country on many issues, including ecology and the role of foreign capital.

But the political heritage of 21 years of military rule is still apparent. The main political institution, particularly Congress and the parties, function inefficiently, their joints still rusty from so many years of restrictions. Brazil has not yet developed the flexible, lasting political structure which could rid it of the scourge of military coups.

The first few weeks of the "new republic" Brazilians affectionately call the new administration, were traumatic. President-elect Tancredino Neves, aged 75, who has gained nationwide respect for his refusal to participate in government under the military, became ill on the eve of his inauguration and died before taking office.

His death was an enormous blow, for many Brazilians had attributed to him near-magical powers to resolve the pressing social and economic problems, a disturbing indication of the country's lack of political maturity.

His successor, Senator José Sarney, whom Neves had appointed Vice-President, has little of his appeal. President Sarney, aged 55, gained almost all his experience in office under the military, even becoming president of the pro-military Social Democratic Party (PDS).



President Sarney: seen as a man who cares.

All Brazilians know that Neves's choice of Senator Sarney as Vice-President was part of a complicated deal with conservative economic groups to ensure a peaceful transition.

Given his initial handicap, President Sarney has done well. Despite his unimpressive performance as a public speaker, he has won considerable public respect, largely because he projects himself as a man who cares deeply about his country's problems.

After months of struggling with a heterogeneous Cabinet, handicapped by Neves, he is gradually asserting his control. At the end of last month he finally opted for the pro-development faction, accepting the resignation of Senator

Francisco Dornelles from the Finance Ministry. This has given his Government greater coherence, though the new economic team has yet to prove that it can resolve the serious, inter-linked problems of galloping inflation, a yawning public deficit and a huge foreign debt.

The new team is backed by the left-of-centre Brazilian Democratic Movement (PMDB), the largest political party and the strongest force within the ruling coalition. But it is here that the country's lack of political maturity is most apparent. The party is widely believed to have achieved little in Congress and even less in the state governments it has controlled since elections in 1982.

Political parties are at a low ebb. A recent survey showed that 60 per cent of the population had little or no confidence in them.

This trend favouring powerful candidate leaders from small parties, who all stand for change of one kind or another. They are expected to do well in the Government's first electoral test, the municipal elections in mid-November. Senator Janio Quadros, an extreme-right politician who was President briefly in 1961, could win in São Paulo, and the candidate supported by the charismatic Senator Leonel Brizola, Governor of Rio de Janeiro, could come out on top in that state.

Such an upset would greatly weaken the Government, particularly if it wants to press ahead with its reform programme at home and take on foreign creditors.

Contadora group sets deadline

From John Carlin, Mexico City

The foreign minister of the Contadora group have set the end of November as the deadline for the signing of a Central American peace treaty.

If the five Central American governments remain unable to negotiate the political solution to their problems, the Contadora group - Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama - will not persist further with its negotiating efforts.

This was made clear on Friday in a joint statement

issued at the end of a two-day meeting in Panama City of the Contadora and Central American foreign ministers.

The statement said that the Contadora group had provided the Central Americans - Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica - with an "act for peace and co-operation" which they had until the end of November to analyse and endorse.

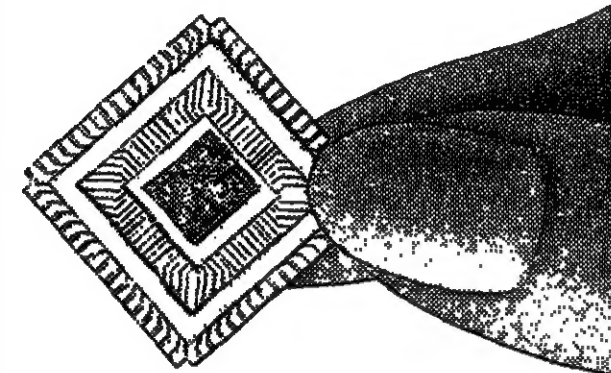
The nine governments worked towards a similar agree-

ment last year, but at the 11th hour El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica backed down.

The stumbling blocks remain the same today. According to the ministers' statement there are three main issues still to be resolved - arms reduction and verification mechanisms and military manoeuvres.

The Contadora ministers are hoping that international pressure will be put on the Central American governments to sign a treaty.

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TYS 15/9/85

Defiance and camaraderie among the beleaguered Britons in Moscow

Angry community closes ranks to ponder Kremlin revenge

From Richard Owen, Moscow

There was defiance and camaraderie over the Sunday lunchtime gin and tonics yesterday, but also anger and despondency as the beleaguered British community in Moscow closed ranks to consider the impact of Saturday's expulsions.

"I hope Maggie hits back and hits back hard," one British resident said bitterly, referring to reports that Britain has a further list of Russians who could be expelled. "If the Russians keep the tit-for-tat spiral going and throw even more of us out, so be it."

Others took a more cautious view, arguing that enough damage had been done to Anglo-Soviet relations. Businessmen agreed with the hope expressed by Sir Bryan Carlidge, the British Ambassador, that relations could be rebuilt after this "enormous setback". Sir Bryan only took over at the ornate British Embassy on the banks of the Moscow river in July.

There are - or rather, were until last Saturday - 43 British diplomats at the embassy, with 32 support staff. 14 journalists (four of them at the Reuters news agency, which considered itself "international" but which is regarded by the Russians as decidedly British) and 18 business representatives.

The Russians picked out only two businessmen, presumably to minimize damage to trade. There was surprise, however, that they should have gone for Golodetz, which has been doing business with Russia for more than 50 years on behalf of Western firms selling chemicals, plastics and industrial plant, and Quest Automation, which deals in computers and high technology, an area in which Moscow has shown great interest.

Business sources said Quest would probably continue to trade with Russia through third countries such as India.

The Soviet list appeared designed to inflict maximum inconvenience to diplomats and journalists, with Moscow on the whole singling out those who had only recently arrived or were in mid-tour rather than those who were about to leave anyway.

One of the few exceptions is Viscount Asquith, great grandson of the Liberal Prime Minister, Herbert Asquith, and the embassy's specialist on Soviet economic affairs.

He remarked philosophically that he and his family had been due to go in October, "although I must say I do mind going in this particular manner".

There was universal scorn for the allegations of spying, which were seen as purely formality. Mr Denis Blewett, of the *Daily Mail*, a veteran correspondent who first came to Moscow 15 years ago and has also reported from Afghanistan and Czechoslovakia, said he strenuously denied such charges.

"It's just a mathematical tit-for-tat," said Mr Mark Frankland of *The Observer*, also a long-serving East European expert and widely respected for his balanced and informed analyses.

He said those chosen were victims of the "diplomatic game" and a spate of Anglo-Soviet had temper. The most one could hope for was "a reasonable degree of decant politeness".

One of the hardest hit is Mr Robin Gedye, who only arrived three weeks ago as the correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*. Mr Gedye, who was decorating his flat when the news came, said he was angry and bitter. He only recently married, and was looking forward to the assignment, covering the new Gorbachev era.

"It's a totally absurd situation. What kind of spy could possibly be? I've hardly had time to unpack let alone find out how to make a dead letter drop. I don't know whether to laugh or cry."

Mr Tim Sebastian, on holiday in France, became BBC TV's first resident Moscow correspondent a year ago, working alongside Mr Peter Ruff of BBC Radio.

Mr Alan Philips, a young Reuters reporter who worked in Moscow for a year in 1979-80 and returned this spring, would normally have expected to complete a two to three-year stint.

Letters, page 15



The expelled Reuters correspondent, Alan Philips, and his wife Sarah, standing by the Moscow river opposite the Kremlin yesterday.

Security plea over Soviet penetration

From Mario Modiano, Athens

The main opposition party in Greece has challenged the Government to spell out measures it was taking to protect national security after a Soviet defector revealed that Greek state machinery had been penetrated, increasing the danger of leaks.

Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, leader of New Democracy, the conservative party, claimed that the United States was holding up the sale of 40 Fm16 fighter planes to Greece because of the revelations. They were made by Mr Sergei Bokham, the former deputy chief of Soviet military intelligence in Athens, after his defection to the US last May.

Mr Costas Loholis, the Greek Government spokesman, described the Opposition's assertions as irresponsible. He said the only reason for the delay in the Fm16 sale was that Greece had not yet signed the conventional agreement for the safeguarding of high-technology secrets.

Who the Russians are throwing out

Diplomatic Staff: Viscount Raymond Asquith, first secretary (political), aged 33, married with one son; Janet Gunn, first secretary (political), aged 36, divorced; Andrew Gibbs, first secretary (political), aged 33, married with two children; Fraser Wilson, second secretary (commercial), aged 36, married with one son; George Edgar, second secretary (political), aged 25, single; Karen Vivian, attaché and vice consul, aged 22, single; James Hanlon, attaché (communications); Ian Black, attaché (communications); Gregory Williams, attaché (communications); Peter Sleet, attaché (communications); James Wynks, (communications); Jeffrey Taylor, attaché (accountant), aged 28, married.

Non-diplomatic staff (administrative and technical): Simon Cracknell, consular section, aged 24; Vanessa Chandler, secretary, aged 23; Joan Finnimore, secretary, aged 23; Philip May, secretary, aged 23; David Sanders, security officer, married.

The journalists: Mark Frankland, *The Observer*; Tim Sebastian, *BBC Television*; Robin Gedye, *Daily Telegraph*; Alan Philips, *Reuters*; Denis Blewett, *Daily Mail*.

The businessmen: Roger Wood, M. Golodetz (Overseas) Ltd; Simon Priestley, Quest Automation Ltd.

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Karpov tightens his grip on title

By Raymond Keene

After his unconvincing start the world champion, Anatoly Karpov appears to be in complete control in his title match with Gary Kasparov.

Game five, played on Saturday, was a fresh triumph for the champion, who neutralized White's initiative in the opening and then won a pawn which was quite sufficient for victory.

Kasparov opened with the Ruy Lopez - one of the most respected systems in chess theory and appeared to build up a promising position.

Then, on move 20, the challenger went in for a premature attack with P-B5 instead of a correct Q-K2 which would have maintained a vice-like grip on Black's central pawns.

Thereafter White's 25th move, N-N3, was a blunder which simply shed the king's pawn for no compensation whatever.

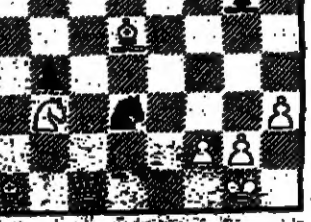
In the adjourned position the world champion sealed the powerful move 41 N-Q6 after which White, Kasparov, resigned to the hopeless situation. White has no answer to Black's extra and passed queen's knight pawn.

The score is now two wins for Karpov, one for Kasparov with two games drawn.

Fifth game
White Kasparov Black Karpov
Ray Lopez

1 P-K4	P-K4	2 N-K3	N-Q3
3 B-M3	P-Q3	4 B-M3	P-Q4
5 Q-Q2	P-Q3	6 B-M3	P-Q4
7 B-M3	P-Q3	8 B-M3	P-Q4
9 P-Q3	P-Q3	10 B-M3	P-Q4
11 Q-Q2	P-Q3	12 B-M3	P-Q4
13 P-Q3	P-Q3	14 B-M3	P-Q4
15 P-Q3	P-Q3	16 B-M3	P-Q4
17 P-Q3	P-Q3	18 B-M3	P-Q4
19 P-Q3	P-Q3	20 B-M3	P-Q4
21 P-Q3	P-Q3	22 B-M3	P-Q4
23 P-Q3	P-Q3	24 B-M3	P-Q4
25 P-Q3	P-Q3	26 B-M3	P-Q4
27 P-Q3	P-Q3	28 B-M3	P-Q4
29 P-Q3	P-Q3	30 B-M3	P-Q4
31 P-Q3	P-Q3	32 B-M3	P-Q4
33 P-Q3	P-Q3	34 B-M3	P-Q4
35 P-Q3	P-Q3	36 B-M3	P-Q4
37 P-Q3	P-Q3	38 B-M3	P-Q4
39 P-Q3	P-Q3	40 B-M3	P-Q4
41 P-Q3	P-Q3	42 B-M3	P-Q4

Resigns



Hawke to sign Papua aid deal

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

Papua New Guinea's celebrations of 10 years of independence are scarcely likely to slacken today when Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, signs an agreement for an aid package of A\$1.4 billion (£710 million) over the next five years.

But the agreement is for considerably less than the Government of Mr Michael Somare had hoped as it faces economic problems caused by a slump in prices for its minerals and a crime wave so serious that it became necessary to declare a state of emergency in the capital, Port Moresby, three months ago.

Having administered Papua New Guinea under a United Nations trusteeship between 1946 and 1975, Canberra is reducing its aid by 3 per cent in each of the next five years. Even so, Australia will be supplying about 80 per cent of Papua New Guinea's foreign aid and nearly 30 per cent of government expenditure.

The generally close relationship is susceptible to bouts of prickliness, and on this visit Mr Hawke is hoping to smooth over the latest issue to come between Australia and its closest neighbour. Earlier this month Papua New Guinea rejected an offer of six patrol boats, worth A\$20 million for fisheries protection, apparently because they were not armed.

Australia stands to lose a great deal if the relationship were to break down. Australian profits from Papua New Guinea are about A\$650 million annually, and investments stand at about A\$500 million. Papua New Guinea is Australia's third biggest customer for processed food and manufactured goods.

The crime wave in Port Moresby is another worry for Australian investors, and has made it difficult to attract expatriate skills.

Botha scorns ties with ANC and rebukes business leaders

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

President Botha, of South Africa, has dashed hopes that the ground-breaking meeting between South African businessmen and leaders of the African National Congress (ANC), could lead to talks between the banned organization and the Pretoria Government.

In an interview with the *African* newspaper, Mr Botha, who a week ago publicly advised against the meeting, said he could not see what it had achieved "other than to show signs of weakness towards the enemies of South Africa".

The Government would not "talk to any organization or any person that advocates violence". Earlier last week he had said South Africa could solve its problems without the ANC, which was banned in 1960 and since 1961 has been waging an intermittent guerrilla war against Pretoria from exile in Zambia.

The leader of the South African delegation at the meeting with the ANC, Mr Gavin Relf, chairman of the Anglo-American Mining Corporation, South Africa's biggest mining and industrial concern, acknowledged in a television interview on Saturday night that even if they could be arranged, negotiations between the Government and the ANC would "not be very helpful at this stage".

Johannesburg, (AP) - Police in a vehicle besieged by a crowd of blacks opened fire with shotguns yesterday, three, police said yesterday. They reported renewed black unrest in seven districts across the country. After a week in which the government announced two reforms of apartheid, English-language newspapers berated President Botha for not acting

Irish store strike close to solution

A 14-month anti-apartheid strike by 11 Irish shopworkers could soon be over after a decision by the main Irish supermarket chains to phase out the sale of South African goods. A peace formula in the dispute will be discussed by the strikers today.

The 11 walked out of a Dunnes stores branch in central Dublin on July 19, 1984, after a checkout girl refused to handle two South African grapefruit.

The ANC president, Mr Oliver Tambo, told the South Africans that his organization was not prepared to consider even a temporary cessation of the "armed struggle" while Mr Nelson Mandela remained in prison, the ANC banned, and the main structures of apartheid intact.

But the businessmen felt the tale had been worthwhile and that further meetings, though none has been arranged, could, in Mr Relf's words, "Lead to some fruitful conclusions".

Another member of the South African delegation, Mr Tony Bloom, head of Premier Milling, told *The Times* that, while the ANC, which operates in alliance with the outlawed

South African Communist Party, was committed to an economic policy of nationalization, Mr Tambo and his colleagues showed a surprising absence of Marxist-Leninist doctrinaire dogma.

"I got the impression that they were interested in the state owning part of the most important industries rather than in total nationalization," he said. "They have a concern about the concentration of wealth in the hands of very few. They want to flatten the pyramid a little."

The ANC, according to Mr Bloom, also showed a willingness to discuss a time frame for a transition to full universal franchise, but would not be prepared to accept any permanent constitutional safeguards for the white minority. But it was prepared to discuss protection for the individual of the kind offered by the American Bill of Rights.

The importance of the meeting lies as much in that it took place at all as in the substance of what was discussed. Only two or three years ago, merely to suggest talking to the ANC was regarded as tantamount to high treason.

Mr Relf did not have a mandate to represent the business community as a whole at the talks, which were essentially a private initiative

Unrest flares across South Africa

Johannesburg, (AP) - Police in a vehicle besieged by a crowd of blacks opened fire with shotguns yesterday, three, police said yesterday. They reported renewed black unrest in seven districts across the country. After a week in which the government announced two reforms of apartheid, English-language newspapers berated President Botha for not acting

sooner and possibly heading off limited sanctions announced by the United States last week. "Unnecessarily late. Grouping in a moment of great national woe," said the *Sunday Tribune* of the Government's stated intention to restore voteless citizenship to blacks from nominally independent tribal homelands and scrap laws aimed at keeping blacks out of "white" South Africa.

In new unrest, police were besieged on Saturday night in East London's Duncan Village black township by youths who forced their armoured vehicle to a standstill.

Seven blacks were arrested in outbreaks of stoning or arson in blacks districts in the Eastern Cape, and around Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban and the capital, Pretoria, a police report said.

Malaysian bridge opens - with a crash

From Paul Routledge, Penang

Asia's longest bridge, linking the island of Penang with mainland Malaysia, opened for business at the weekend and was blocked within minutes by a collision involving local highway officials.

It was an embarrassing start to the realization of a dream which has brought mist to the eyes of Penangites for decades, but in the passion if the moment perhaps understandable. The cars were soon disen-

tangled, so that the convoy could proceed.

Enthusiasts for the eight-mile Penang bridge, built by Hyundai of South Korea in less than 3½ years at a cost of \$400 million and more than 20 lives, are now squaring up for a battle to gain recognition for it in the *Guinness Book of Records* as the third longest in the world.

Of more immediate moment to motorists is the high cost of crossing it - seven Malaysian

ringgits (about £2.30) or the equivalent of a day's pay for many local people.

The venerated former Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, has condemned the charges as inflationary, and the Government is promising to reduce charges once the tolls have paid for construction and interest costs. On yesterday's showing, that will be well into next century.

The bridge itself is utilitarian

rather than artistic. For most of its length it hugs the sea, but rises at the centre to a graceful span 90ft above the high-water level permitting 30,000 tonnes ships to pass through.

Fittingly enough in a predominantly Muslim country, the suspension towers of the 700ft span have an unmistakable look of the minaret about them, especially viewed from the island side as dawn breaks.

Alfonsín reasserts claim to the Falklands

Belgrade (AP) - President Alfonsín of Argentina said yesterday that peace is threatened in both Central America and the South Atlantic.

Speaking on the last day of his visit to Yugoslavia, he said that no one who had studied the Falklands issues in depth could doubt Argentina's rights over the islands.

Argentina would not stop trying to convince the government and people of Great Britain to open negotiations for the solution of the problem, he

added. "Peace is threatened in that region."

President Alfonsín said he would ask friendly countries to exert their influence on Britain in that direction, but emphasized that "certainly Argentina will seek a peaceful solution of this problem."

Discussing Central America and developments in Nicaragua and Honduras, President Alfonsín said that Argentina, as a member of the Contadora group, would continue to work for a solution and that the situation there could lead to a "peaceful solution of the problem. He

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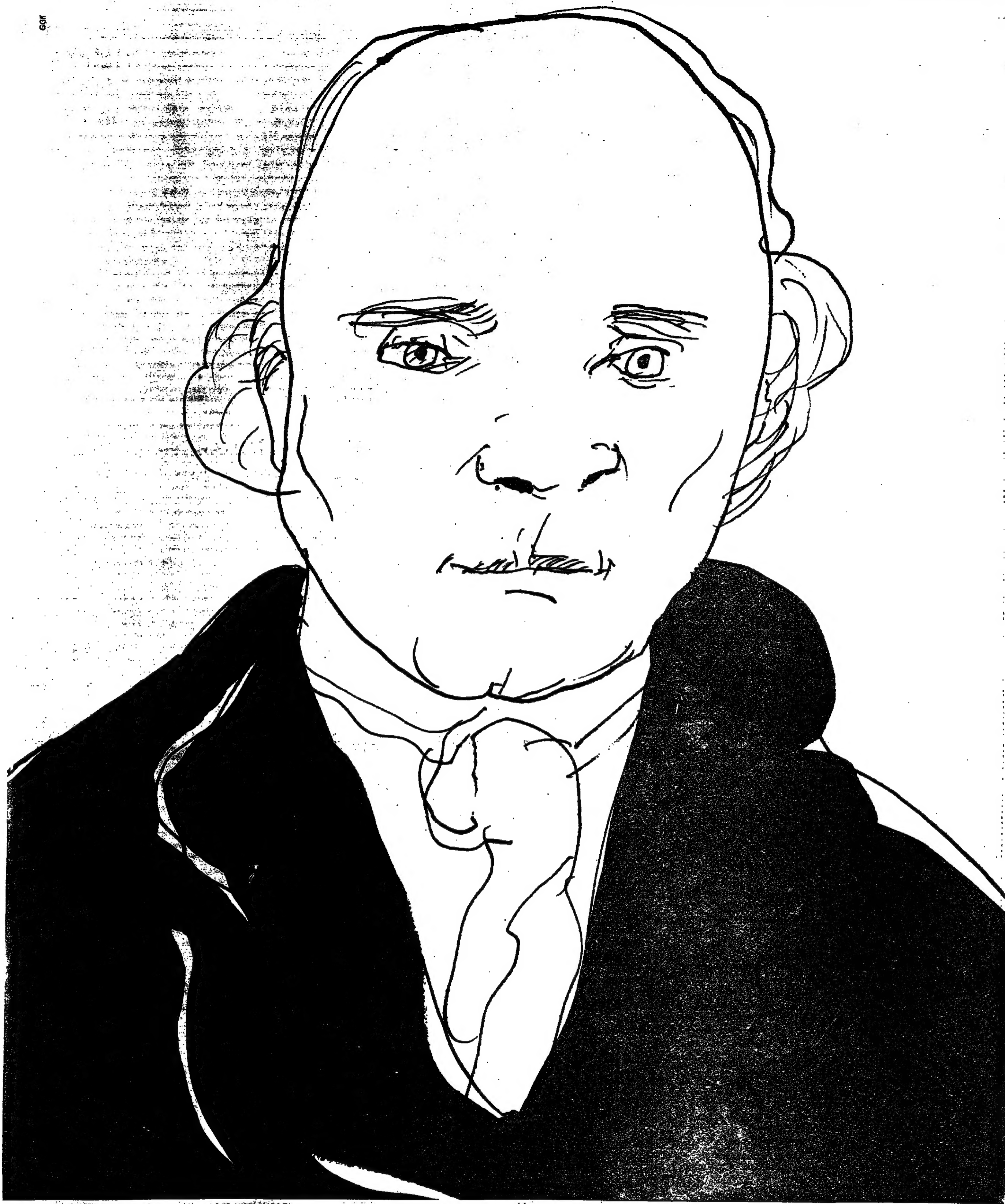
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TYS 20/9



HENRY CAVENDISH FIGURED IT OUT.

Henry Cavendish was morbidly shy and solitary and terrified of women. He took pleasure in scientific experiments, but certainly not in the fame they could bring. If he had bothered to publish his pioneer work on electricity instead of leaving it to gather dust in his attic, it would have saved others long years of duplicate work.

He did the first real investigation of hydrogen, and discovered that water was a compound of hydrogen and oxygen.

In 1798, to solve the remaining question in

Newton's equation, the gravitational constant, he devised an ingenious experiment with a rod on a wire and two sets of balls that enabled him to calculate the mass of the earth. He figured it weighed 6,600,000,000,000,000,000,000 tons more or less. He was right.

The companies that make up United Technologies applaud Cavendish for his spirit of scientific inquiry. Our own research has led to many solid technological breakthroughs — though none quite as weighty as his.

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UNITED TECHNOLOGIES

مركز من القمح

THE ARTS

PUBLISHING

Less money, please

Every year or two an editor is appointed to a publishing house with the objective of improving dramatically the "quality" of the list. The tom-toms of the Bloomsbury jungle start beating and editors mutter to each other in the Garnick and the Groucho and wherever two or more publishers are gathered together that Macavity, or whatever his name is, is the one. He is rocking the boat, disturbing the consensus of what is regarded by the publishing community as appropriate remuneration for a particular kind of book. In other words, paying too much to acquire an author.

A third novel, for instance, by a writer whose last one was short-listed for the Booker Prize might, if it is fairly similar in tone to the previous two, be worth about £5,000, or even, if there is a shortage of lively literary fiction around, £10,000. But that is likely to be about it. This sum would have to come from a different house than that which brought out the first books. It is rare for a publisher *in situ* to regard an author's new novel as a breakthrough one in sales terms and pay appropriately for it in advance if the previous books have sold no more than the usual couple of thousand copies or fewer.

Authors and their agents, it goes without saying, tend to be enthusiastic about publishers with flexible cheque-books. A few years back Christopher Sinclair-Stevenson of Hamish Hamilton was regarded as a salient payer by authors, as unnecessarily imprudent by rival publishers. Last year's Brian Clough of the book trade was David Godwin of Heinemann. The current villain or

hero, depending upon your viewpoint, is Richard Cohen who, a few months ago, joined Century from Hodder & Stoughton and before Century acquired Hutchinson and became Century Hutchinson.

In his short life, Century has been less a frequent visitor to the best-seller lists than a denizen thereof. Not, though, with new literary fiction, the kind of books that win the Booker or the Whitbread, the Somerset Maugham or the Heinemann. Mr Cohen's brief was to create a literary list.

Thus he solicited a look at the typescript of Timothy Mo's new novel, *An Insular Possession*, after it was clear that Mr Mo was parting company from Andre Deutsch, the publisher of his first two novels. Mr Cohen thought the new book, set in China in the 1830s, pretty saleable and offered in excess of £65,000 for the British rights. Century Hutchinson's offer was declined and what the *Bookseller* trade journal describes as "much lower bid from Carmen Callil at Chatto & Windus" was accepted.

The *Bookseller* suggests that this is a good thing, and goes on to quote Timothy Mo's literary agent, Deborah Rogers, as saying: "If he had gone to Century Hutchinson, he would have wanted the price to be lowered. The worst possible way for an author to begin with a publisher is with the potential of an unearned advance."

All of this strikes me as extraordinary. No one appears to be suggesting that Richard Cohen is an inadequate editor or that Century Hutchinson is not a suitable house for authors of Mr Mo's kind. If Century Hutchinson have not yet had any literary prize winners among the four titles they have submitted for the Booker this year are new novels by Stanley Middleton, a previous joint winner, and Anthony Burgess, a runner-up.

More significantly, Chatto & Windus is regarded as one of our most literary imprints, and Mr Mo might have wanted to appear on such a list. Yet no one has said that. Besides, Andre Deutsch is more noted for the distinction of its list than for paying lavish advances.

The idea of Miss Rogers, one of our best agents, suggesting that a publisher's advance should be negotiated down is an unusual one. Mr Mo, who combines writing novels with work on a sports weekly, is not thought to be over-endowed with cash but maybe he has a severe accountant or unsympathetic tax-man.

Is the obligation of a publishing house not to sell as many copies as possible of the books entrusted to it? Can, or should, the sales figure of any novel be determined before the book is published? What Miss Rogers describes as "the potential of an unearned advance" can be abolished if the publisher prints sufficient copies of the book to earn that advance, promotes and markets it vigorously, and pays the author a royalty that is, perhaps, unusual in approaching 50 per cent of what a bookseller receives for stocking the novel in his emporium.

What is any particular novel worth? On the most basic level, it has to be worth what a publisher is prepared to pay for it, provided that the publisher remains in business and knows what he is about. And that "worth" cannot always be reduced simply to the author's potential royalty earnings on the book.

E.J. Craddock

In May 1972, the late François Truffaut met Hitchcock before the Cannes Film Festival. At the request of a television network, Truffaut interviewed Hitchcock.

Directing the conversation in contrasts

Un tres Heureux.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN
OPQRSTUVWXYZ

Alma Hitch



Hitchcock's Christmas card joke (left) for a happy No 1 and Hitchcock with Truffaut (right)

François Truffaut: You have always made stylized films. Do you miss black-and-white cinema? Alfred Hitchcock: No, I like colour. It's true that I filmed *Psycho* in black and white to avoid showing red blood in the killing of Janet Leigh in the shower. On the other hand, since colour pictures, we have problems with the décor. Violent contrast – for instance, extravagant luxury or abject poverty – can be expressed with precision and clarity on the screen. However, if we wish to show an average apartment, it is difficult to create a realistic décor because of the risk of lack of precision.

FT A few years back, cinematographic audacity – eroticism, violence, politics – came from European productions. Today, American cinema has gone a way beyond Europe in terms of insolence and freedom of expression. What do you think of the situation? AH It reflects the moral climate and the way of life that prevail today in the United States, as well as being a result of national events that have had an impact on the film-makers and on the public. Still, American cinema dealt with social and political themes long ago, without attracting crowds to the box office.

FT Are you in favour of the teaching of cinema in universities? AH Only on condition that they teach cinema since the era of Méliès and that the students learn how to make silent films, because there is no better form of training. Talking pictures often served merely to introduce the theatre into the studios. The danger is that young people, and even adults, all too often believe that one can become a director without knowing how to sketch a décor, or how to edit.

FT In your opinion, should a film student be taught literature, or music? AH The main objective is to arouse the audience's emotion and that emotion arises from

the way in which the story unfolds, from the way in which sequences are juxtaposed. At times, I have the feeling I'm an orchestra conductor, a trumpet sound corresponding to a close shot and a distant shot suggesting an entire orchestra performing a muted accompaniment. At other times, by using colours and lights in front of beautiful landscapes, I feel I am a painter. On the other hand, I'm wary of literature; a good book does not necessarily make a good film.

FT Do you think the old rules still apply, namely that an appealing main character and a happy ending are still valid? AH No. The public has developed. There's no more need for the final kiss.

FT Why don't you film today some of the subjects that interested you in the past, and that producers refused to finance? AH The need for profit is just as valid today as it was in the past. Even if I wanted to make, write, play, and finance a film on my

own, I couldn't do it because I would run into problems with the trade unions. FT Do you prefer to shoot a screenplay with strong situations and sketchy characters, or the opposite? AH I prefer the strong situations. It is easier to put them into images. In order to probe a character in depth, you often need too many words. In *Frenchy*, the killer is likeable. It's the situation that makes him disturbing.

FT In 1956, the remake of *The Man Who Knew Too Much* was a great hit. Your first version of the picture was made 22 years before. If you were to consider another remake today, which of your former films would you choose to do over again? AH *The Lodger*, which I made in 1926. A London family wonders whether their new roomer is Jack the Ripper – an excellent story filmed without sound, which was the basis for two later versions by other directors.

FT The reportage of a news item in a newspaper will never have the impact of a moving picture. Catastrophes only happen to others, to people we don't know. The screen allows you to meet and to know the killer and his victim, for whom you're going to tremble with

fear because you care about him. There are thousands of car accidents every day. If the victim is your brother, you are really interested. If the film is well made, a screen hero will become your brother or your enemy.

FT *Frenchy* is your first European movie in 20 years. What is the difference between your work in Hollywood and your work in England?

AH When I enter the studios – be it in Hollywood or in London – and the heavy doors close behind me, there is no difference. A coal mine is always a coal mine.

This extract, hitherto unpublished, is taken from Hitchcock by François Truffaut (revised edition) published today by Simon and Schuster through the Heinemann Group at £18. The photograph and copy of the Christmas card are taken from the same source.

FT Do you have any suggestions for reforms in respect to the awarding of the Oscars?

AH The awards would have to be given out every three months, which would be difficult. The disadvantage of the present formula is that the awards invariably go to pictures that were released between September and December 31!

FT A few years ago, everyday life was banal, and the extraordinary was in films. Today, the extraordinary is commonplace: political kidnappings, plane hijackings, scandals, and the assassinations of chiefs of state. How can a director of suspense and espionage films compete with everyday life?

AH The reportage of a news item in a newspaper will never have the impact of a moving picture. Catastrophes only happen to others, to people we don't know. The screen allows you to meet and to know the killer and his victim, for whom you're going to tremble with

fear because you care about him. There are thousands of car accidents every day. If the victim is your brother, you are really interested. If the film is well made, a screen hero will become your brother or your enemy.

FT *Frenchy* is your first European movie in 20 years. What is the difference between your work in Hollywood and your work in England?

AH When I enter the studios – be it in Hollywood or in London – and the heavy doors close behind me, there is no difference. A coal mine is always a coal mine.

This extract, hitherto unpublished, is taken from Hitchcock by François Truffaut (revised edition) published today by Simon and Schuster through the Heinemann Group at £18. The photograph and copy of the Christmas card are taken from the same source.

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Promenade concerts

BBCSO/Handley
Albert Hall/Radio 3

So how will this year's last night be remembered? As the year of the Stars and Stripes? The flag didn't exactly dominate the airwaves, and the tune can be put to better uses, as any football supporter can tell you. As the year when we heard the final bars of "Pomp and Circumstance" for the first time? Not a bad gimmick to suspend the applause, but then not really worth it either. As the year, perhaps, when Sarah Walker, all in white as Britannia, rose still more majestic to flash, in her last verse, a vast Union Jack as her sweeping inner sleeve?

That entirely characteristic *coup de théâtre* did, indeed, belong to an evening of unashamed showmanship. Shura Cherkassky, of course, had loved every minute of it in his Gertrude F. major Piano Concerto, slinking mischievously into its opening glissando, alternately strutting and shouldering his way through its first movement. The wind soloists of the BBC Symphony Orchestra seemed rather more embarrassed at the various

shades of blue required of them at the start of the Adagio. So the Proms took its leave of the United States. With stimulating incongruity, Walton's *Gloria* came next, comparable only in its orgy of rhythmic overkill. The BBC Symphony Chorus and BBC Singers, with Ameral Gunson, Adrian Martin and Henry Herford, made a particularly fine job of trying to persuade programme-planners to think twice next time *Bethshazzar's Feast* raises its ugly head. This is by far the handsomest piece.

Another valuable reminder: we should sometimes, perhaps, be allowed to hear just a little more of Arthur Bliss, and certainly more of *Checkmate*. The five dances from the ballet stepped in diplomatically between Sousa and Arne in the second half. From the mock sensuality of the Black Queen's entrance to the wit of the Red Bishop's plainingchanting puppetry, they were played with a concentrated exuberance as worthy of their inspiration as of the occasion.

Hilary Finch

LPO/Tennstedt

Albert Hall/Radio 3

Before the funfair of the Last Night, the Proms paid traditional respects to Beethoven and Schiller. Long box-office queues indicated the reputation Klaus Tennstedt has gained for his special blend of energy and grandeur in the German orchestral repertoire, and this properly joyous performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony can only have enhanced that.

Its most notable feature was its sheer urgency. The explosive pattern was set when the first great unison forte came not as a gradual growth out of those misty filaments but as a startling, stamping interruption. In the development Tennstedt drew

some classically lyrical phrasing, only to disperse it brusquely and with crushing power at the theme's D major return. The same movement's ending had some almost improvisational tempo fluctuations, as did the finale which flared into glorious discord while listeners were still holding their breath in wonder at the adagio's beauties.

Of course, those who indulge boldly in improvisational tempo fluctuations while conducting 300 performers are liable to acquire penalty points. It happened here, in the scherzo where the swift momentum and neatly-clipped rhythms were momentarily unsettled by an ensemble lapse between wind and strings; and again in the finale. First the fruitless solo quartet (Mari Anne Hägander, Alfreda Hodgson, Robert Tear and Gwynne Howell), and then the male chorus, seemed surprised by the vigour with which Tennstedt wanted this little German band to march.

The London Philharmonic Choir, though not ideally punchy, sustained their cruel, high-flying parts gamely, but this was really the LPO's night. In the adagio, in particular, there was some intensely expressive playing, even if the dynamic scheme did seem at times to be borrowed from the wrong end of the nineteenth century. Earlier, in Mozart's "Jupiter" Symphony, the wind principals had seized eagerly a rare opportunity to shine: Tennstedt having placed them immediately in front of him. The pair in texture richness was apparent, but perhaps there was a more important psychological gain too. Treated like soloists the wind section responded with bubbling virtuosity, and for once this symphony's nickname was matched by the jollity of the performance.

Richard Morrison

Television

China and the Chinese are subjects about which many in the West have strong opinions. Our prevailing view of the government is that it is repressive. No 17 Cotton Mill Shanghai Blues (Channel 4), which examined the current musical culture of the country, did not contradict this view, yet it did manage to avoid all the usual clichés about Chinese authoritarianism. It was a brave attempt to be fair and, that most difficult of things, "balanced", and it was successful.

The programme took as its starting point the political upheavals of the last 10 years. After the death of Mao Tse-tung, his widow Jiang Qing led the so-called "Gang of Four" to the great unison forte came not as a gradual growth out of those misty filaments but as a startling, stamping interruption. In the development Tennstedt drew

for re-education. But Madame Mao fell and the pendulum has swung back again. Today music is enjoying a renaissance in China.

To support its thesis, the programme looked at three different areas of China. These were Soochow and Shanghai which with its popular musical culture which is mainly played by factory orchestras; Beijing (Peking), centre of the revival of classical Chinese music; and Xinjiang province on the Mongolian borders, where the Turkish-based music of the Islamic majority is dominant. Given the breadth and scale of the culture, Jeremy Maere rightly chose to record it in the simplest manner. The musical performances were filmed as *tableaux vivants* without distracting cutaways, spaced with interviews to camera with the performers.

China is changing, or relaxing, and what was not permissible 10 years ago – the

American blues for instance – is now once again acceptable. But there are still restrictions which seem incredible and unpardonable. European twentieth-century music is regarded as unsound and not played by the Peking Philharmonic.

The film wanted to praise the license which China has permitted but it did not shrink from showing unpalatable aspects. To this end it emphasized how the freedoms which the government permits are strictly circumscribed, and how the belief that art must serve revolutionary or political ends is still mandatory.

The programme was an examination of the music but it was also a portrait of China seen through her culture. The picture which emerged was more convincing than many other Western views, where invidious comparisons between "them and us" have alienated viewers.

Carlo Gebler

Theatre

Burlesque with satirical zest

The Real Inspector
Hound/The Critic
Olivier

Lord Olivier's coupling of Sheridan's *The Critic* with *Olephus Rex* is remembered as an act of conspicuous daring; but his new pairing – brought to the Olivier by the noted firm of McKellen & Petherbridge – strikes me as a much greater theatrical risk. Sheer intensity of contrast was bound to sharpen the appetite for that farious New Theatre double bill. To bring *Stoppard* and Sheridan together – no matter how succulent the prospect (tickets are hard to come by) – looks altogether too much like comic overkill.

Inspector Hound and *The Critic* share some of the standard properties of backstage comedy over the ages: the fatuities of theatrical convention, the sight of things going wrong. Neither of them, however, is strictly a backstage comedy. They deal with performance itself, and both find means of dissolving the barrier between the two sides of the house and letting the onlookers into the stage action.

Apart from *The Taming of the Shrew* they are the only two plays I know that perform this trick successfully; which is one justification for this programme and the means by which it rises superbly above the cloying amusements of fun corner. Of the two *Stoppard's* play is the technical marvel. It presents two wickedly caricatured reviewers settling in to watch a wickedly caricatured country house thriller. I defy anyone in my trade to listen to the dialogue of Birdboot and Moon without wincing; and the same



Ian McKellen

goes for Agatha Christie's ghost at lines like "So you're the crippled half-brother of Lord Muldoon." But no sooner have you concluded that the author is taking accurate aim at two barn doors, than Birdboot sets foot in the baronial drawing room, and it emerges that *Stoppard* is writing a real thriller as well as satirizing thrillers; and that Birdboot's opening query to his fellow hack, "Where's *Higgs*?" is the start of a murder investigation, and not a random bit of private chat.

Directing the play on a set (by William Dudley) which achieves the miracle of allowing the action to face simultaneously up and downstage, Stoppard does himself full justice in articulating its workings with the utmost clarity and zest. There are mechanical jokes, such as the radio that springs to life whenever Mrs Drudge switches on her Hoover. There are exposition gags, and costume gags (such as the arrival of Ian McKellen's Inspector with loud-bailer in gigantic waders). And there is a company who, from Edward Petherbridge's fastidiously up-

market second string to Eleanor Bron's profile-flaunting Lady Cynthia ("One of the finest Cynthia's since the war") Birdboot ruminates appreciatively) bring satire and burlesque into a loving embrace.

In Sheridan the two things remain in separate categories. First the acid social comedy of Mr Dangle's salon; then the riotous dress rehearsal of *The Spanish Armada* on stage. The link between the two is Mr Puff, and not only in terms of plot as the tragedy's author. Dangle's visitors, each with his own self-incriminating name, are there for Sheridan to run them through. As played by Mr Petherbridge, Jonathan Hyde, and Roy Kinnear, it is done with brisk stylistic attack; but it is a relief when McKellen's Puff arrives on the scene, to break the atmosphere of genteel malice.

The first group are 11 limited to the small world of satire. Puff does not belong; it's his vanity, cannot be hurt. The text gives you a clear image of the others. Puff is open to anything the actor imagines; and McKellen marvellously presents him as a young, Irishman on the make (like the actors) overflowing with gentility as he outlines his schemes. Sheila Hancock's production does not escape certain dead passages of mock-baroque heroics. But her ending, with a vast patriotic pageant including the sinking of the Spanish fleet; and a total collapse of the set (including one of Buster Keaton's most dangerous tricks) which leaves Britannia aloft, singing the National Anthem to the accompaniment of one quivering violin. All this gives heroic preparation for Puff's utterly unconcerned last line.

Irving Wardle

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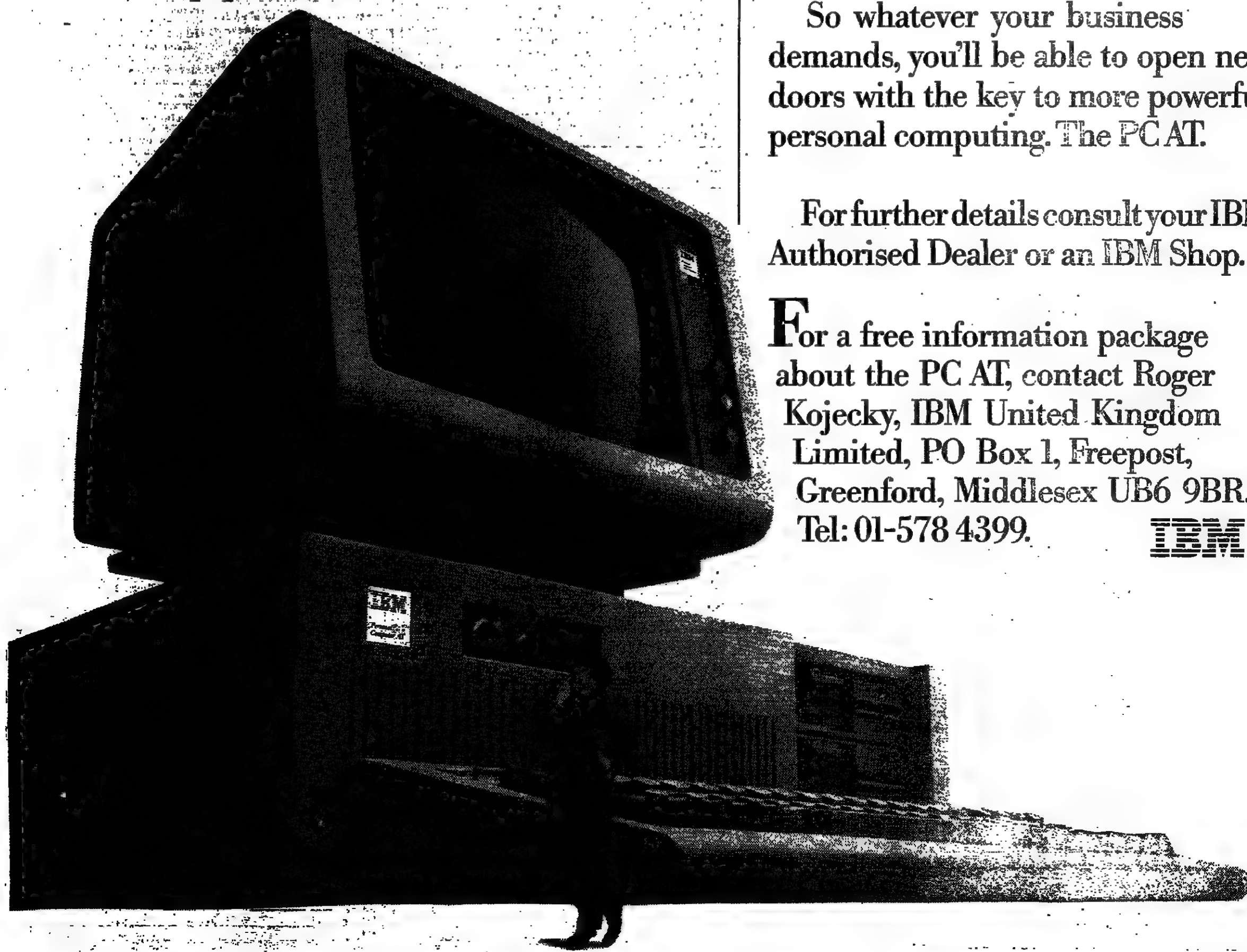
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SPECTRUM

Will Steel sail into a storm?

The Liberals, meeting in Dundee this week, will not give David Steel the same easy time as the Social Democrats gave David Owen. George Hill, in the second of his party conference series, reports

Surely they can't go on meeting like this. Last week it was the Social Democrats meeting in Torquay, about as far south and west as it is possible for a British party conference to find a foothold. This week it is the Liberals in Dundee, 430 miles to the north and east. This is no way for a political alliance to carry on.

If only in delegates' travelling expenses, it imposes an intolerable burden of cost and complication. Two defence debates, two industrial regeneration debates, two "whether our movement" debates - whether, indeed, if its two horses gallop so far apart?

The paradox is not lost on the leaders of the two movements-in-one. In November the two Welsh parties of the Alliance are to break new ground with a joint conference. But there are no plans for next year's major policy-making assemblies to follow the same fraternal pattern.

It is a great diverter of energy, to be discussing a unified manifesto, a unified front bench, even a unified leadership, by instalments and hundreds of miles apart. Not only do they do it separately, the Social Democrats do it three times a year. The spectacle of the SDP Assembly last week showed simultaneously how far the impulse to unite had progressed, in terms of feelings as well as policies, and how obsessively absorbing the snags and loose ends in the process remain to members and the media.

'If we have joint policies, we need a joint front bench... that might bruise egos'

Whether the voters find it all quite as absorbing is a moot point. At present Alliance infighting may retain a kind of continuing soap opera interest, but this is probably conditional on signs of fundamental progress.

But the drive towards structural coalescence has run almost as far as it can do without setting up dangerous counter-stresses, at least this side of a general election.

"A merger would simply use up a disproportionate amount of energy and anger," says SDP president Shirley Williams. "The legal and constitutional complexities are absolutely God-awful. We'd be completely unable to fight then next election if we tried."

Paddy Ashdown, MP for Yeovil and one of the most eager Liberal advocates of closer co-operation, reluctantly agrees. "If we have joint policies we need a joint front bench. Some egos might be bruised by that, but they'll have to be anyway. I would favour an elected leader, but I accept it is too late for that now before the election."

The relationship between the two Davids is the principal human-interest running theme in the Alliance soap opera. The two are very willing to play up to it, as Dr Owen's headline-catching discrimination between friendship and bosom friendship showed last week. Their relationship has clearly surmounted some real initial tensions, based partly on the natural wariness of two men each accustomed to leadership and determined not to play second fiddle.

On Dr Owen's side, there was the fear that the identity of his party would simply be lost in the nationwide structure of the Liberals. On David Steel's side, it is possible to detect signs of resentment at his rival's studied air of command.

"Surprising as it may seem, we simply didn't know one another very well to start with," says David Steel. "That led to some difficulties. But now it's very good - there is a lot more give and take in the relationship."

In fact the two leaders were attempting something scarcely achieved in recent British politics except under the stress of national danger.

Despite the intriguing anecdotal suspense all this imparts to the Alliance's public image, it can only be a drawback in the eyes of that fraction of the electorate (more substantial than aficionados can bear to imagine) which finds politics itself, with all its compromise, tension and manoeuvring, inherently antipathetic and vaguely disreputable. With both major parties appearing markedly more political, in this sense, much of the appeal of the Alliance derives from a not altogether accurate impression that it is above all that kind of thing.

A Gallup poll this summer showed that, among the important group of waverers who do not support the Alliance but would consider voting for it, as many as 63 per cent would be more likely to do so if the two parties merged. A similar proportion said they would feel the same way if the Alliance had one leader instead of two.

The Alliance as such secures considerably higher support than either of its component parties, especially among rural voters in whom Liberal traditions might be expected to be strong. The name itself is congenial to the apolitical.

They will have to be disappointed. Even apart from personalities, the real differences between the interests and attitudes of the two parties are too great to allow a much closer rapprochement at this stage. The coming and goings at Torquay last week over the question of who would speak for the Alliance in negotiations, in the event of its holding a balance in the Commons but failing to secure a majority, show that significant political issues are involved.

Mrs Williams' advocacy of a



Motley crew: Captain Steel with shipmates (anti-clockwise) Paddy Ashdown, David Alton, Alan Beith, David Penhaligon and Michael Meadowcroft. Captain Owen stands aloof

corporate leadership - a "gang of eight" - indicated the misgivings felt by all three of Dr Owen's fellow-founders of the SDP at the direction in which he is taking it. But the Torquay assembly's decisive refusal to identify itself in terms of left and right as heir of the Labour Party indicates that the rank and file share his instinctive drive to succeed.

It has always been a moot point whether the Liberal Party wants deep down to succeed. In the fundamentally binary tradition of British politics, there will always be a place between the giants for the disgruntled, and those adverse by temperament to the big battalions.

There is a cheerful heterodox waywardness about many Liberals which makes them reluctant to bend to the tasks of coming out on top. If the Alliance's challenge eventually fails, the SDP will fade away and dissolve into other political groupings. The Liberals will go merrily on as they have done for the past 60 years. Mr Wallace in his now notorious report was scarcely revealing any secrets when he doubted whether the Liberals were ready for power.

This is not true of Mr Steel, nor of most of his colleagues in the Commons. Mr Ashdown, for instance, last week presented one of the most beguiling spectacles of the Torquay conference by his adroit

disengagement from the unilateralist line he had equally adroitly imposed on the Liberal Party a year ago.

It was statesmanlike, no doubt, to concede that the issue set up a potentially dangerous incompatibility of policy between the two parties, and to adjust the line to avert the danger.

But he is likely to suffer for it at Dundee. The unilateralist strain in the Liberal Party is a lively one. The party managers have avoided a full-dress assembly debate on defence this year, but the topic will seethe on the fringes, especially since Mr Ashdown failed to evoke any answering concession from the SDP.

'Alliance activists outstrip the party leaders in readiness to work together'

This week's assembly is sure to be more disputatious than the SDP's, not because the Liberals are casting around for a sense of identity, like the Social Democrats, but because the Liberal banner has always given shelter to a number of disparate causes.

The tension between zealots and pragmatists which is ingrained in the Labour Party has its counterpart among the Liberals, though with less

PARTY PROFILE

THE LIBERALS

A federal party with independent constituent parties in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Basic organizational unit is the constituency - financially self-sufficient through members' subscriptions - which pays an affiliation fee to the national party. A 300-member council meets four times a year, but can be overruled by the annual 200-member delegates Assembly. Party President elected by Assembly ballot. Leader by ballot of full membership.

Where the money comes from: In 1983, affiliation fees represented £72,000 of the party's £238,702 national income. The main contribution came from donations, grants and legacies, with £58,000 from appeals and other fundraising activities. The party boasts that it receives no regular donations either from business or trade unions, but in May 1985 it received a donation of £188,000 from the British School of Motoring - the largest single donation to a political party ever recorded. It was to be spread over three years, but even one year's share amounts to almost twice as much as all 1984's other corporate donations to the Alliance rolled into one. Of the latter, £5,100 went to the Liberals (two donations), £9,500 to the SDP (four donations) and £14,100 to the Alliance as such (six donations). Main business contributors are insurance and publishing.

MPs 18
Peers 41
Members 105,000
Annual subscription 105,000
National income (1983) £238,743

malice and often only half-serious. The Young Liberals, for instance, strike a teasing, knowing attitude towards their elders and partners.

There are bound to be ructions over disarmament, Ireland, nuclear energy, the role of women and reselection procedures for the party leader, and over claims - which have some substance - that the Liberals have given more ground all round than the SDP in the search for a common position.

Defence and Ireland remain the issues where the sharpest divergences exist, with the Liberals formally committed in the one case to a unilateral freeze on deployment, and in the other to "troops out" and reunification willy-nilly. The joint working party on defence has still to report, but a similar body has found common ground over Ulster, and the Liberal leadership will be seeking formal endorsement for it.

Some on the practical side of the party share the left's low opinion of the SDP, not because they are put off by its masterful leader, but because the SDP cannot equal the Liberal Party's breadth of experience in local politics, both in campaigning and in sitting on councils. In the revival of Alliance fortunes since the Brecon by-election, the Liberals have been mopping up the council by-election seats fastest.

This is a handicap that the SDP cannot quickly surmount, though William Rodgers insists that the quality of active members is now high.

In the selection of candidates, effective agreement had been reached in all but about 45 of the 523 English constituencies. By the end of the year it is expected there will be about 10 hard cases left to solve. The long-drawn-out saga of selection has been a crucial influence in moulding attitudes and in instilling the habit of co-operation among workers on both sides. "The activists outstrip the party leaders now in their readiness to work together," says Paddy Ashdown.

Given the strength of that drive to co-operate, the two parties - one lacking in ministerial experience but strong on the ground, the other just the opposite - have a good chance of complementing each other's weaknesses effectively. The main thing the Liberals must show at Dundee is whether their commitment to that task is as wholehearted as that of the Social Democrats.

Champion (Luton), page 14

A red light for the kerb-crawlers

As the anti kerb-crawling law comes into force today to combat the problems caused by prostitution in Britain's inner cities, residents in an area of north London are celebrating their own victory.

The Private Member's Bill introduced by Janet Fookes, MP for Plymouth Drake, means that persistent kerb-crawlers now face a maximum fine of £400. But the Finsbury Park Action Group went one step further and persuaded the police to set up a special vice squad to clean up the streets, and the council to erect road blocks to stop men cruising the area.

Life became a non-stop nightmare for residents after a police crackdown on the red light district of King's Cross simply drove many of the prostitutes a couple of miles north to Finsbury Park, already notorious as a vice area.

The problem dates back to 1916 when a United States Army camp was based in the park providing an affluent clientele for London's ladies of the night.

Their presence contributed to the general disintegration of the area with its rows of two, three and four-storey Victorian houses. Landlords discovered that they could make more money renting out rooms and beds to these undemanding occupants than to legitimate tenants.

The 1980s influx meant prostitutes were hanging around noisily in groups urinating in front gardens and copulating in council basements. Kerb-crawlers cruised the residential streets day and night, holding up the flow of traffic, pestering and propositioning the women of the area.

"It's an extremely unpleasant sensation, walking down the street at night and having a car in first gear easing along slowly behind you," says Mrs Pax Kenyon, a 36-year-old mother-of-three who lives in Finsbury Park Road.

When the Kenyon family bought their house eight years ago, they did not realize that they were moving into a traditional stronghold of vice.

"My initial reaction was one of disbelief and then of intense rage, followed by resignation," says Mrs Kenyon, a clinical psychologist.

But it began to dawn upon the residents of the area that they could do something themselves about their plight.

Members of the Finsbury Park Action Group (FPAG), a community organization formed to "improve the lives of the people living and working in Finsbury Park", began to look seriously at ways of ridding their streets of the intruders.

Mrs Margot Srebnery, secretary of the FPAG and a local resident for 38 years, says: "First we had to prevent kerb-crawling going round and round the block."

There was already a precedent for such a scheme in a triangle of roads in the north corner of the area where metal barriers prevented the continuous flow of soliciting traffic. The FPAG set about trying to persuade the authorities to extend the road closure scheme which had, ironically, contributed to an increase in the number of prostitutes in the rest of the district.

The action group's initial proposal was rejected by the Labour council on the grounds that it was too expensive and against their policy, then in operation, of using residential roads for through traffic.

The members campaigned to get the councillors and the planners on their side. They wrote letters, held meetings and addressed committees. Whenever anyone objected to their proposals they went along in person to try to talk away the new obstacle.

The turning point came when, attending a meeting in

one of the group's homes, councillors saw the extent of the problem for themselves.

In the meantime, the FPAG were also trying to get the police on their side. It took three separate approaches to three successive chief superintendents over an 18-month period before they got results. The third deputisation fortunately coincided with the police's own decision to work more closely with the community. The result was the formation of a 16-strong vice unit to concentrate on cleaning up the red light district of Finsbury Park.

"We had always appreciated the problem but never quite understood the depth of interference with and feeling among members of the public," says Superintendent John Peck, currently in charge of Stock Newington police station and the area vice unit.

During the first few weeks of the unit's operation, the vice officers arrested prostitutes at a rate of between 30 and 60 a week.

The heavy police presence on the streets over the past two years has deterred both prostitutes and kerb-crawlers. Brothels have closed down and pones fined and imprisoned.

One landlord, Jamaican-born Theophilus Powell, was given a six-month jail sentence in July for renting rooms to prostitutes. The 14 run-down houses he owned in the area have now been sold to a firm of developers.

In March this year, as a result of continuing pressure from the residents, Hackney Council



Victory smiles: Patricia Kenyon with her children

installed seven black and grey 3ft 6in metal barriers in an experimental road traffic scheme costing £7,000. The result, according to all the parties concerned, has been a virtual end to kerb-crawling, but the project has yet to be ratified.

"Our lives have changed dramatically," says Mrs Kenyon, whose children can at last play in the street.

Even so, the scheme is not without its critics. The emergency services complain about the problems of speedy access to the area and the local Methodist minister has lodged a formal objection with the GLC because of the difficulties in getting vehicles up to his church for weddings and funerals.

Even the prostitutes, concerned about their livelihood, have marched to the council offices to protest.

Members of the FPAG, meanwhile, are "cautiously optimistic" about a permanently successful outcome to the pilot traffic scheme. The authorities, however, acknowledge their remarkable achievements in getting things done.

"It is fairly unusual for residents to get quite so involved," admits Derek Turner, the council's principal traffic engineer.

Sally Brompton

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The fruitful past of Silicon Valley

For a century California's Santa Clara Valley was the largest orchard the world has ever seen. Its cherries, apricots, pears and walnuts in demand across the continent and the oceans. With 40 feet of top soil in places, Santa Clara was, and still is, the most fertile strip of land on the West Coast.

Yet today farmers are thin on the ground. In their place are Lockheed, NASA-Ames, Hewlett-Packard, the household names of "hi-tech". For Santa Clara is now more celebrated by its sterile nickname, Silicon Valley.

As memories begin to fade, Yvonne Olson Jacobson has compiled a personal account in words and pictures of life in those seemingly idyllic days when the yeoman freeholders on their 50 acres fed America.

Mrs Jacobson's brother still grows cherries, but the family farm has shrunk to 27 acres and stands, ripe for development, across the street from the Sunnyvale city hall.

The Olson grandparents arrived from Sweden at the turn of the century and in the course of time their son, Reel Charles, became the Cherry King of the valley. In the close co-operative community the horticulturalists were constantly improving their fruit. The Olsons' neighbour, Frank C. Willson, gave his name to the Willson Wonder Nut, a walnut the size of your hand. The Libby brothers



Apple harvest: Santa Clara in the early 1900s

turned their attention to the canning of fruit cocktails. John Bean, his almond trees harassed by the San Jose scale (an insect), devised the first double-acting pump spray.

Then, in 1933, came the thin edge of the wedge. The Holtz family, purveyors of "Yugo" brand fresh peas, sold Moffett Field to the United States Navy and soon a hangar - which stands to this day - was housing research on air balloons. Adjacent to the Navy is the NASA-Ames research laboratory, its inventions now resting on the surface of the moon, while close by is Lockheed, where the Trident missile is made.

The very inventiveness of the pioneers contributed to the decline of agriculture. Spray man John Bean's company

culminated in the Feed Machinery Corporation, which made tanks (for battle, not water) in the last war.

Add to this the role of the valley's renowned university, Stanford. Fred Terman, head of the electrical engineering department, went out of his way to attract the best brains in the country. Hewlett and Packard, developers of the audio oscillator, were his students, and they opened a factory on the Stanford Industrial Park which today employs 15,000 people in Santa Clara alone. Stanford was also home to the physicist Robert Noyce, whose discovery of the transistorized chip paved the way for the microprocessor.

The valley is still a place of commerce. Santa Clara's population soared from 300,000 to

1,300,000 in three post-war decades. Sunnyvale, one of 15 towns in the valley, has 600 high-tech companies.

Cherry King Olson was one of several farmers who refused to sell chunks of land required for a road to carry the increased traffic generated by the Lockheed plant. When the land was finally expropriated, Olson was assessed for \$17,000 in additional property taxes because, argued the city of Sunnyvale, the road had improved the value of his holding.

Since then, encouraged by the British green belt model, the California legislature has passed protective laws which have slowed the decline but not stopped it. Many farmers sold out at prices far above anything they had ever dreamed of.

The resolute farmers, who have refused to go quietly, now find that their land could be worth as much as \$500,000 an acre. The Olson family have been offered half that much for each of their surviving 27 acres.

Their father is now dead, but his stern defiance looms over them. He used to say: "You can only sleep in one bed and eat one meal at a time."

Denis Herbstein

Passing Farms: Enduring Values by Yvonne Jacobson, published by William Kaufmann. Available in UK from W. H. Freeman, Oxford (0865 726975) at £4.95.

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MONDAY PAGE

Greta Garbo, still alone at 80

On the eve of her 80th birthday, Garbo's private life in Manhattan is investigated by Trevor Fishlock who finds her protected by star struck neighbours



Greta at 13: worked in a barber's shop

Around the part of East 52nd Street where Greta Garbo has her apartment, the people are rather like the inhabitants of English villages where royalty live. They like the reflected light and they are proud, protective and loyal. That is why, around East 52nd, they take a dim view of Ted.

Ted, said, Kal Socrates, the manager of the Mid-City Food Mart, a small supermarket in First Avenue, is a Japanese paparazzo who has been hanging around on the corner of 52nd Street for nearly two years.

He is usually on patrol when Miss Garbo ventures out on her shopping and browsing expeditions with a hat and dark glasses obscuring her marvellous face. "Naturally," Mr Socrates said, "she doesn't like Ted and tries to avoid him."

The shopkeepers don't like Ted either. They wish he would sling his telephoto because they think him a scruffy and intrusive fixture, a gawper in a neighbourhood whose residents and traders take their most famous inhabitants in their unquenchable, nonchalant stride. If Miss Garbo wants to be left alone, that's good enough for them.

"You can see," Mr Socrates said, "that she is a very private person and we respect that."

"It's a sort of honour, having her live in the area," said George van Tassel, a florist. "She's a living legend, isn't she? Actually, she hasn't been in this shop, but she looks in the window as she passes by."

A bookshop proprietor also feels that Greta Garbo graces the area. "I don't want to say anything about her," he said, "because I respect her privacy. But she does come in here and we chat a little. She is still lovely, you know. Once she tilted her head back and there she was, just as she was in that famous photograph. It was as though time had stood still."

His eyes were suddenly dreamy. Men of a certain age grow reflective at the thought of Garbo: her performances were, after all, extraordinarily erotic. She defied foolish and howlingly censorious by entering into a conspiracy with her audiences in which they felt they could divine her thinking. She made herself a canvas for the imaginations of cinema-goers and weakened the knees of a generation of men with romantic and carnal promise. That scene where she turned the communion cup to place her lips where her lover's had been...

that scene where she drew her lover's bouquet of flowers close to her body and bit...

Glances from her entrancing eyes mesmerized everyone. Her original mentor, the director Mauritz Stiller, who screen-tested her when she was 18, noted: "You get a face like that in front of the camera only once in a century."

"There is no room for argument as to the efficacy of her allure," wrote *Life's* critic of her second Hollywood film, *The Temptress*, in 1926. After seeing *Flesh and the Devil* the following year, a critic wrote: "There are three love scenes in this picture that will make hair rise on end, and that ain't all. This girl has everything."

After seeing *The Kiss*, her last silent film in 1929, a critic wrote: "I would gladly pay for my own ticket to see a Garbo picture, the greatest compliment a reviewer can pay."

Garbo made her 27th and last film, *Two-faced Woman* - a critical flop - in 1941. She left the film industry a multi-millionaire to pursue a very private life, asking only to be left alone. She has lived in her seven-room apartment in East 52nd Street for nearly 40 years, dividing her time between this home and a summer place in Switzerland.

The street where she lives is an expensive part of Manhattan, Sutton Place, roughly equivalent to Kensington in London. Her apartment overlooks a park, a sculpture garden and the winding brown East River, always interesting for its ships and cruise vessels. At night she can see the huge red neon Pepsi-Cola sign on the far shore. The worst thing about her location is East River Drive, a motorway where the traffic is either fast and furious, or slow and very furious.

Apart from that, this section of East 52nd is agreeable. A typical street scene includes a limousine or two with chauffeurs, a large car with diplomatic number plates, wealthy elderly ladies walking their poodles, a nanny and child, and uniformed apartment block doormen with sentry eyes.

The doorman in Miss Garbo's building is polite and firm. "A lot of people come here asking about her," he said. "Book writers, journalists, photographers, the public who want a glimpse of her. But if I started to speak to them, where would it end? Miss Garbo and the other people here want their privacy and therefore I am saying nothing."

Seima Schwartz, manager of the A. Fitz Meat Market, said: "Miss Garbo is a vegetarian, but she comes in here



Enduring enigma: 'She is still lovely... it's as though time had stood still'

occasionally when she is having guests. She smiles at us through the window when she passes. Very few people recognize her because she wears dark glasses and a large hat. People turn around in amazement when they realize that they have actually seen Greta Garbo she has passed by. I think she still looks marvellous. She hates to be pressed, or followed. She is a shy and gracious lady. And then there is that voice, that unmistakable voice.

Greta Garbo's entrancing voice was first heard on a film soundtrack in *Anna Christie*, her 14th film, made in 1930, and her first words were: "Gimme a visky..." Her voice, wrote the *New York Herald Tribune* critic, "is revealed as a deep, husky, throaty contralto that possesses every bit of that fabulous poetic glamour that had made this distant Swedish lady the outstanding actress of the motion picture world."

In a bookshop on First Avenue, the proprietor's wife said: "She comes in occasionally and browses and buys books. On a shelf behind the counter I have a copy of an out-of-print biography of her and I hope that one day I may pluck up the courage to ask her to autograph it for me."

She may be lucky, but Greta Garbo

has rarely done celebrity things like signing autographs. Years ago in Hollywood she paid for her horse-riding in cash, to avoid writing cheques that might be kept as souvenirs of help to track her down - and she still pays cash.



She was a loner from childhood, always desired seclusion, never had enthusiasm for the Hollywood celebrity game. She made seclusion her goal and part of her persona - and while she had close friendships with men like Geylord Hauser, the physician, Leopold Stokowski, the conductor, and Cecil Beaton, who took some of the finest photographs of her, she never married.

She is an enduring enigma, but around East 52nd Street they don't think of her as mysterious. They are pleased to have her around and talk of her shy smile and gentle, friendly wave. "She's really rather wonderful," a shop assistant said. "She doesn't say much when she comes in here, but she smiles. She's nearly 80, you know, but the beauty is still there."

Let's make honest women of ourselves

You can tell that honesty as a way of life has become socially viable when it gets taken up by real hot-shot celebrities - and it has. For example, Andrea Reynolds, the glittery mistress of Claus von Bulow, gave a party that declared itself as a verisimilitude for her new eye-lift, with the plastic surgeon who had performed the nips and tucks as guest of honour.

Unfortunately, I was not invited to this eye-opening occasion so I cannot report on how much honesty went on. What I would like to know is: did the guests inspect the brand-new, eggshell-smooth Reynolds eyelids and restrict themselves to, "Delicious, darling. No one would ever think you were old enough to have had three husbands," or were they allowed to match the hostess's frankness and inspect behind her ears for scars?

Maybe there was even a Cassandra-like figure among the guests who, between sips of her Martini, made utterances like, "You mark my words, Andrea, if you keep on taking up the slack, the day will come when your face will be pulled into a knot at the back of your neck and you'll have to sleep at night with your eyes wide open because the lids won't shut."

Total truth is here and it won't go away

Maybe Mrs Reynolds should have pretended that the reason she was looking 10 years younger and prettier was because the man she loved hadn't been put in the slammer for trying to murder his wife.

But total truth is here and won't go away, at least not until primness and prudishness make a comeback - which they might well do, if and when the fashion pendulum changes direction.

What most appeals to me is the new fiscal frankness. Having spent years never knowing whether the man who had asked me out to dinner was a multi-millionaire or a near-pauper and so never knowing whether to order the lobster thermidor or a chef's salad, I am delighted that the economic facts of life are now being divulged. How interesting to be privy to the state of a gentleman's bank balance, the extent of his alimony payments and the credit limit on his Gold Card.

Nora Ephron may have said that the only result of the women's movement was the Dutch treat, but that seems a lot less terrible than what happened in pre-honesty days. What happened then was that men always had to pay the restaurant bill, because it was not considered decent to tell



PENNY PERRICK

their current girl friend that they had just had to settle a six-bedroomed house and a large annuity on a former wife. Better by far, as is currently permissible, to buy a man dinner and then look him straight in the eye and ask him to recommend a good mortgage broker.

But full-frontal female honesty, although all the rage, is hard for gentlemen of a certain age to cope with. One of the most delightful men I know works alongside several women, a fate he considers enviable except when talk turns to what he calls "a question of their insides".

In vain I have explained that this body-talk is part of a womanly support system; that talk of sexual escapades, operations and peculiar goings-on in various parts of one's anatomy create instant rapport between women, even if they have only just met. What a shame, I tell him, that men have no similar path to intimacy. To which he replies that that is the reason crickets was invented.

Being blatant makes life more interesting

Being able to be blatant makes life more interesting. If you don't have to pretend that the colour of your hair is as nature intended, you can wear it purple or pink. Instead of merely changing from mouse to chestnut and worrying constantly about the roots. When life is at rock bottom, you are allowed to admit to feelings of suicidal depression and have friends rally round instead of cracking a phony smile, insisting you are perfectly fine and then going home and sticking your head in the oven.

Not that there are not days when I don't pine for more discreet and restrained times. This is especially so when someone, brought up in an atmosphere of relentless truth-telling, demands to know how much I paid for the dress I am wearing, to which the only honest answer is, "Too much."

Toys fit for a royal nursery

Whatever new toys Prince Henry unwrapped yesterday on his first birthday, much of his childhood pleasure will derive from the old toys preserved in the various houses of his family. Prince William has already visited with his father the Buckingham Palace basement which houses the model Rock presented by the Gibraltar garrison, along with its tunnel and network of clockwork trains. In Gloucestershire, Princess Anne's children play with the Queen's old rocking horse. In the Balmoral estate at Birkhall, the "tin wing" so called for its corrugated iron roof, houses a playroom with piano, table tennis, darts and books.

Queen Victoria's dolls are reserved, too, in the London Museum but from Prince Henry's distant ancestors no toys have survived. Henry VIII's toys on wheels were culprits of bronze. He also had a miniature cannon to fire, but nothing to compare with the private army belonging to William Henry, Duke of Gloucester, son of Queen Anne. Ninety small boys bearing wooden muskets and dressed in old paper caps paraded for his amusement.

Another solitary royal child, Princess Victoria of Kent, was often seen by the public in the rounds of Kensington Palace, driving her pony carriage or



Palace playthings: dolls made by Queen Victoria as a child

riding a donkey. Her dolls, all 132 of them, she made and dressed herself.

Queen Victoria's own children benefited from the 1846 state visit by Princess Augusta of Prussia when a Christmas hamper of toys arrived from the princess: five boxes of toy soldiers for Bertie, the future Edward VII, four little "shops" selling "fruit" and "vegetables" for his older sister, Princess Victoria.

At the family's country retreat on the Isle of Wight, Osborne, the children flew kites, swam in a floating bath

designed by Prince Albert, picked strawberries and gooseberries and generally ran wild.

Prince Albert encouraged such domestic amusements. The toys provided for his children were practical ones like the famous Swiss Cottage, a small-scale wooden chalet, imported in sections. In its kitchen, blue and white tiled, the girls cooked the vegetables which the boys were supposed to grow.

Bertie's later home at Marlborough House, in a traffic-free backwater, The Mall, was lively and easygoing. Practical jokes - soda syphons and apple-pie beds - were part of family life, as were animals, including a miniature pony brought back from the Indian tour and then coaxed to climb the stairs at Sandringham.

Queen Alexandra, mother of six children in seven years, proved, perhaps through necessity, an indulgent parent. "They are such ill-bred children I can't fancy them at all," was Queen Victoria's comment on her grandchildren, while her Prime Minister, Disraeli, expressed surprise at having his trousers pulled by a child hiding beneath the table at a Sandringham dinner.

It was the more extraordinary that George V, brought up in this carefree manner, should impose on his own family a bleak and military discipline. At York House on the Sandringham estate, two small rooms upstairs served as the nursery. "There was very little room for toys", the five children's nanny, Mrs Bill, reminded the Duke of Windsor years later. "You only had one small rocking horse."

At 145, Piccadilly, the next

generation had not one toy horse but 30. Stabled on the nursery landing, they were bridled, saddled, groomed and polished according to a strict routine. On a long table nearby was set out Princess Elizabeth's farm, its pieces collected one by one over the years from Woolworth's.

On Princess Elizabeth's sixth birthday, the people of Wales subscribed to *Y Brynn Bach To Gwyl* (the Little Cottage with the Straw Roof) - a doll's house big enough to play in. Erected at Windsor, it had a 3ft 4in bath with hot and cold running water, a miniature garden with a sundial and box hedges, a Welsh dresser and chintz curtains. Successive generations of royal children, including recently Prince William, have enjoyed playing in it.

On the Queen's accession, Prince Charles moved from his blue and white nursery in Clarence House to the gloomier surroundings of Buckingham Palace. Here in six rooms overlooking Constitutional Hill, his Clarence House nursery was faithfully re-created, including its cuckoo clock, boxes of soldiers and 10ft-high mock-Tudor doll's house.

Prince Charles's first toy in the post-war austerity-conscious years had been an ivory-handled rattle used by his mother, who had been given it by Queen Mary. Later he displayed a liking for toy trumpets, and an inclination to conduct the massed bands at the Trooping of the Colour. The magnificent fleet of metal battleships given to him by King Frederick of Denmark sadly tended to sink in the bath.

Tradition has it that Princess Anne, never interested in dolls, preferred her rocking horse to any other toy. She transferred to real horses, in any case, before her third birthday. In the same vein, royal biographers have been quick to draw conclusions from photographs of Prince Andrew pasting silhouettes of jet fighters into his childhood scrap-books.

Prince William has so far escaped such typecasting. It would, even the most dedicated royal-watchers would admit, be difficult to try to define the character of a child whose favourite toys are his pedal-car Jaguar, his koala bear, and a plastic whale which "blows things out of the top and is great fun in the bath".

Kirsty McLeod

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THE TIMES DIARY

What the rights hand...

Even the greatest cynic will be unable to credit the sexism case which opens at Glasgow's industrial tribunal court today. Taking the floor will be Dr Angela Bowey, professor of business administration at Strathclyde University, who is well known as an equal opportunities commissioner. This year she has been a change of scene and applied for the job of chief executive of a national body. Although well qualified, she did not make the shortlist, which apparently consisted of 20 men and only two women. A man, Alan Hart, got the job. Dr Bowey is taking the organization to the tribunal for alleged sex discrimination. And what is the organization? The Equal Opportunities Commission.

● The Liberals should check carefully what publishers send them to flag at Dundee. Penguin sent the SDP a box supposedly containing 200 copies of Shirley Williams' *Jobs for Life*. When opened it was found to contain Peter Rabbit writing paper.

Expense account

The one man feeling a distinct sense of *shadenfreude* at the expulsion of Russian spies is Lord Mayhew, who was both a Labour Defence and Foreign Office Minister before his decision to the Liberal Party. He is getting a good deal of unchristian pleasure imagining the Russians suffering the sort of embarrassment we did when Burgess, McLean and Philby disappeared, says Lord Mayhew. He also tells me it was he who was responsible for hiring Burgess - and for sacking him. After a few months working in Mayhew's top secret anti-Soviet propaganda unit, Burgess got the boot. The reason given by Mayhew on Burgess' file: "Dirty, drunken and idle."

Highway patrol

West Midlands police officers soon won't be allowed to let the train take the strain. Ranks below superintendent who have to travel to attend courts or accompany prisoners will now have to board cut-rate National Express coaches. Senior officers' first-class train perks remain.

Stung

While David Steel grumbles about "Home on the Range" being played on hold to House of Commons telephone callers, the Parkinson's Disease Society is apoplectic about the one British Telecom has selected for them: "The Sting." "Our anxiety grows day by day concerning the wisdom of having The Sting linked with this charity," it says. "More and more callers are reminding us how inappropriate the tune is for a respectable charity, bearing in mind some recent publicity concerning some less responsible charities and efforts at fund raising." Tough, says BT: "The only thing we can do at present is to remove the music altogether."

Big in Moscow

The Liberals who are up in door Dundee for their conference this week should take heart: the Russians think they matter. The news was divulged by none other than Oleg Gordievsky to a member of the party's national executive, Philip Goldenberg. The double agent had approached Goldenberg and asked him to explain the role of the Social Democrats. After roughly comparing them to the Mensheviks in Russian politics, a conversation about the merits of Stalin and Trotsky ensued. Gordievsky said the Liberals were regarded as "increasingly important" to which Goldenberg responded: "They will become important when they take the first KGB plot to infiltrate the national executive." Goldenberg says: "A mask came over Gordievsky's face."

Real lively

Russell Profit, the black unofficial parliamentary candidate for Lewisham East, must relish trouble. Already in hot water after being rebuffed by Labour's hierarchy because the "black section" of the local party had taken part in his selection procedure, Profit is to speak at a fringe meeting at the Labour conference in Bournemouth with one Dodie McGuinness. She is not only a Sinn Féin councillor but is Martin McGuinness' sister-in-law. Yesterday Profit told me: "I don't see the meeting as condoning violence. The purpose is to get an understanding of Sinn Féin objectives." I fear Neil Kinnock might not see it like that.

Royal bow

The Royal Family can tease Prince Philip mercilessly about this one, a hitherto undisclosed boob. The former Vice-Consul of Venice, R. A. Noakes, tells me of the time Prince Philip made an official visit to the city as commander of a R.N. destroyer. After embarking a pinnace with the consul in Venice, Noakes says: "I remember what a fine sight we made with H.R.H. at the helm, and as is the custom, a naval rating immaculately dressed in white uniform standing in the bows with boat-hook horizontally at the ready, as we proceeded up the Grand Canal. Our route necessitated turning into a narrow canal and passing under a very low bridge. Our Royal Helmsman had not bargained for this, but the bowman, realising he would be swept off the boat, abandoned his boat-hook and dived into the canal. I have a vivid recollection of seeing his brilliant white topped cap floating away - and the apologies of said Royal Helmsman."

PHS

Can Reagan get off the ropes?

Michael Binyon considers American options
for the Geneva summit as Gorbachov
delivers some sharp lessons in communication

Washington.

A bout between political super-gladiators is how Mikhail Gorbachov insists that President Reagan views their encounter in Geneva in November. The Soviet challenger, fresh to the arena of international summitry, seems already to have dealt his older opponent some deft propaganda blows. What, the world is left asking, does Reagan really want to achieve in Geneva? How much is he handicapped by disagreements in his own camp over tactics and the weapons to employ?

There is no hiding the dismay in Washington over Gorbachov's initial success in a field in which the Great Communicator should have been on the firmest ground: the skilful exploitation of the media to influence world opinion. The Americans are sure to make the most of the setback caused by the KGB defection in London, though this will have little bearing on the summit, despite the views of some British commentators.

Over the past month a string of adroit moves and gestures from the Kremlin has created an impression of sweet reasonableness: a unilateral moratorium on Soviet underground nuclear tests; an affable new foreign minister in place of a dour hardliner; unofficial offers of significant cuts in Soviet weaponry. Gorbachov's apparently candid call in *Time* magazine for a new climate of goodwill and substantial agreements on arms control; the courteous reception of US senators in Moscow; the offer to join the US in establishing a European zone free of chemical weapons.

These moves have been paralleled by a series of hapless statements and ill-considered decisions in Washington which have given the impression of sulky intransigence: the curt insistence on further underground weapons tests; the warning by the national security

adviser that the Russians must change their thinking and approach; unofficial forecasts that little will come of the summit; the decision to go ahead with tests of an anti-satellite weapon; the hullabaloo over spydrift in the Moscow embassy.

The White House has pointed plaintively to the unfairness of the propaganda contest. Gorbachov has total control over the Soviet media and generous access to influential newspapers, magazines and broadcasting organizations in the West. Reagan has to contend with a free and combative press at home and did not even receive an answer to his request to explain his good intentions on Soviet television.

The White House has made no secret of its wish to counter a Soviet propaganda barrage with an aggressive policy of reminding the target audience in the West of the dismal Soviet record on human rights, its expansionist philosophy, military build-up and attempts at destabilization around the world.

But, forced on the defensive, the administration has begun to worry about its image. Both Reagan and Vice-President George Bush have recently insisted that they want to see real progress at Geneva and hope for a genuine give-and-take dialogue.

Reagan knows that a better relationship with Moscow is something most Americans yearn for, and a successful summit is essential if he is to maintain bipartisan support in Congress for his foreign and defence policies. To retain the unity of the NATO allies, he must sit down with Gorbachov and demonstrate his sincerity in seeking a genuine reduction in nuclear arsenals.

But can he do that? Moscow has made it clear there can be no arms agreement unless Reagan abandons his Strategic Defence Initiative ("Star Wars"). And that is a policy to which Reagan is deeply committed and which he regards as his own contribution to the cause of peace. Many advisers appear zealous less for the concept itself than for the ultimate concession that could be made to secure Soviet arms cuts. That is not the president's view. For him, SDI is non-negotiable.

The problem, however, goes beyond SDI. There are influential members of the administration - William Casey, director of the CIA, Casper Weinberger, Defence Secretary, and especially Richard Perle, the hardline Assistant Secretary of State - who oppose the very principle of negotiating with Moscow at present, on the grounds that the US has not made up the military lag and the Russians would be bound to do better out of any agreement.

Indeed the summit has become the focal point for deep ideological divisions within the administration. Conservatives want Reagan to return to the confrontational approach that marked his first two years of office, while pragmatists, among whom must be counted the president's influential wife Nancy, as well as George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and Paul Nitze, the chief arms control adviser, believe that only by a breakthrough in East-West relations can Reagan secure his place in history.

These splits have led to the confusion here over what the administration really wants from the

summit. To maintain the broadest possible agreement, while dampening public expectations in case Reagan returns virtually empty-handed, officials have pointed to only minimal progress: agreement perhaps on peripheral issues such as scientific exchanges, consular matters, a resumption of air links. It is being said that the summit should really be no more than a get-together meeting between the two leaders which could prepare the ground for future regular meetings.

That would suit the conservatives well, as the US would be forced into making any concessions. Reagan could be portrayed as a man of peace, and domestic worries over East-West tension would be assuaged. Ex-president Richard Nixon, a veteran of four summits, has insisted that such meetings can be useful but the United States should be under no illusions over Gorbachov's dedication to the pursuit of Soviet interests. Reagan, he says, should use the occasion to insist on Soviet restraint in the Third World.

But Gorbachov has upset this scenario. From being the side which poured cold water on a summit, Moscow is now insisting on real progress on substantive issues, especially arms control. He is holding out the prospect of always tantalizing to Western public opinion, of an end to the nuclear stalemate and a partial dismantling of the Soviet arsenal. By doing so, he is forcing the US side to decide on its own bottom line.

That is a question that sooner or later, and preferably sooner, Reagan himself must decide. He can be decisive. He was when he insisted, unexpectedly, that the US would continue to observe the limitation of the Salt 2 arms treaty and scrap a submarine. To smite back at the younger gladiator, he must have more than counter-propaganda to prevail.

Anne Sofer

Timetable for deadlock

With the breakdown last week (was it for the fifth or sixth time?) of talks to resolve the teachers' pay dispute, a feeling of despair is developing among those who care about the state education system. Who is actually in control? And is there any way out?

The most comprehensive, and depressing, survey of the effects of the teachers' industrial action so far is that carried out by the Secondary Heads Association and published in July. Of the heads surveyed, 73 per cent reported lessons lost through strikes. 57 per cent increases in truancy, 48 per cent adverse effects on examination preparation, 85 per cent problems over holding parents' consultative meetings, 62 per cent reported problems with extra-curricular games, and 46 per cent and 40 per cent with extra-curricular music and drama respectively. This is only a small part of the total picture. Staff meetings, in-service training, report-writing and general standards of discipline have all suffered badly as well.

In such a situation people will look to Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary for Education, for a solution. After all, it is his duty, by law, "to promote the education of the people of England and Wales... and to secure the effective execution of local authorities, under his control and direction, of the national policy."

In fact, his handling of the dispute has been a classic of bad management: failure to understand the teachers' grievances, inability to forge useful alliances, lack of diplomacy, ill-timed and extreme provocation, failure to out-manoeuvre militancy; in short, inability to lead.

He has had one bright moment since he took on his present job. Twenty months ago, in a speech to the North of England Conference at Sheffield he won, for a moment, hearts and minds in a cogent analysis of what was wrong with the education system and in a clarion call to raise our sights. If only, then, he had put on the table the one and a quarter billion pounds which he is now offering, after two years of disruption and bitterness, things might have taken a very different course.

All sorts of calculations are now being carried out around that sum of money, and what it is actually worth depends on assumptions about phasing, index-linking, and underlying yearly pay settlement. All of those issues will presumably form part of the negotiations between the unions and the local authority employers when and if they ever get started. But the fact that the teachers' total salary bill stands at present around £5.5 billion puts the sum into some sort of perspective. It does not represent a return to Houghton levels, but it comes nearer to it than any sum of money even whispered up to now.

But in fact very few figures were whispered up to now and that was the major block to negotiation. Sir Keith two years ago promised that if a new salary structure and agreement on conditions of service were forthcoming he would "go to the cabinet for more money". The local authority employers and all the unions other than the NUT were

prepared (with varying degrees of enthusiasm) to negotiate, but the NUT's resistance was strengthened by a widespread scepticism - later apparently vindicated - about the government's willingness to put up more than an extra 2 or 3 per cent.

Sir Keith's August change of heart probably owes more to public outrage over the top people's salary award than any other single cause, although the May council election results - with education cuts a major factor in unsettling many Tory councillors - undoubtedly played a part. But it has been a gift to those on the teachers' side who want to prove that militancy works: industrial action has brought us this far, they cry. One more push and we will regain the Houghton heights.

The majority of teachers are not, naturally, militant. Indeed, the majority belong to unions which last week voted for a settlement which the management side were prepared to concede, based on this year's claim at 6.9 per cent (a figure thought on Thursday to represent the current rate of inflation; on Friday the published figure fell to 6.2 per cent). The fact that that majority does not yet prevail is because Sir Keith has set November as the date for the revised composition of the teachers' side. At the same time he has set October 11 as the date by which a deal, including outline agreement on the structure and conditions package, must be reached if the £1.25 billion is to remain on the table.

A feeling of doom now reigns, as obsessive as the atmosphere of the concluding chapters of a Hardy novel. Misunderstanding, failed communication, and cruel coincidence drive the dramatic personae to a tragic end. In particular, those two dates - October 11 and sometime in November - haunt those wistful characters (the vast majority of those concerned) who hope against hope for a happy ending. If agreement is not reached by October 11, the money is lost. But agreement cannot be reached until November, when the true voice of the majority of teachers will be allowed to assert itself.

But it is not, as in Hardy, the blind force of nature that separates the two dates. It is not the moon, or the harvest that determines them. It is not even the laws of men. Both dates originate in letters from Sir Keith Joseph. They owe something, perhaps, to the needs for administrative convenience of people in the Treasury and the Department of Education and Science, but it can hardly be put any higher than that.

Surely it is not beyond the wit of the man to rearrange those two dates? To bring forward the re-composition of the teachers' side, offending nobody but the NUT, and to delay agreement on the £1.25 billion, offending nobody but a few Treasury civil servants? It would be a matter of a few days in either case. If he does not do it, it will illustrate either woeful incompetence or bad faith. In either case, it is bad news for the Conservative government, and even worse for the education system.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

moreover... Miles Kingston

Names that just ring a bell

Where Are They Now? No 494

A nostalgic look back at men and women who used to dominate the news, and are now no more than a distant memory. Whatever happened to them?

Leon Brittan. Once British Home Secretary and a regular star of TV's *Spitting Image*, Leon Brittan has vanished totally from public consciousness after being promoted by Mrs Thatcher earlier this month. "Being promoted by Mrs Thatcher tends to lead to total obscurity," he is believed to have told friends. Now he has disappeared altogether, fulfilling their worst fears, and has been replaced by Mr Douglas Hurd, who is chiefly known for having gone to Handsworth last week to be pelted by an angry crowd, and who now wants to go back to Belfast.

Oleg Plazma. Last week Oleg Plazma was a Russian spy living in London, duly accredited in the espionage section of the Soviet embassy. Now he has been exposed as a secret trade mission worker and has been expelled from this country in disgrace for attempting to involve Britain in a trade deficit situation.

"Spies we don't mind," says the Foreign Office. "They buy and sell worthless secrets and nobody is any worse off. But if you get a trade delegate selling us a load of Russian equipment for millions of pounds, it could damage this country for many years ahead. After we had unmasked him, Plazma had to go."

By now, Oleg is probably in disgrace in Siberia, or alternatively working on a book called *London on Less than 100 Roubles a Day*.

Bob Geldof. Lord Geldof of Wembley now lives quietly at home with his Nobel prizes, working on his memoirs, *One Man's Concert*.

Cecil Parkinson. Nobody really knows what Cecil Parkinson is doing now, but on the other hand nobody really knew what Cecil Parkinson was doing then. He is the only Tory politician who ever became famous by being left out of the government at every opportunity. He was for a while well-known for going on TV and explaining to Robin Day why a by-election had just been won or lost

(this is called being chairman of the Tory Party), but nobody could remember of this being a full-time job or work out what he really did for a living. Cecil Parkinson should really be in a feature called "Where were they then?" He was also briefly famous for not leaving his wife, but as we said, he was famous only for things he hadn't done.

Pamela Stephenson. Who?

Princess Michael of Kent. Famous in the early 1980s for being the only member of the Royal Family who behaved like a royal personage. Princess Michael of Kent was noted for her regal bearing, her 10,000 watt smile and for the way her hair-do stayed up without falling over. The rest of the Royal Family, meanwhile, went about in business suits and sensible clothes, holding either handbags (women) or hands behind their backs (men). The strain of being the only really royal one around finally told in 1983, when she confessed that she knew nothing about her father, not even what he did for a living. She immediately vanished from the media for ever.

Sinclair C-5. Voted Joke of the Year 1985. The British like to have a different national joke every year (past winners have been Channel 4, the Barbican, TV-am, Cecil Parkinson, and Milton Keynes) to give them the illusion that the British sense of humour is evolving. This year's national joke was the Sinclair C-5, a small vehicle like a coffin on wheels, but quite unprecedentedly it has already been replaced, with three months of the year to go, by a new national joke: the BBC Board of Governors. Now the C-5 is nowhere to be seen. The extraordinary thing is that nobody can be found who ever saw a Sinclair C-5 personally, and it may be that we dreamt the whole episode.

Andrew Lloyd Webber. A once famous British composer of musicals, of which it was said that people went into the theatre humming the tunes and came out having forgotten them. He now lives quietly in retirement, in Concorde.

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As the Liberal assembly opens in Dundee, Henry Drucker outlines a plan of campaign
that could make the Alliance the dominant political force north of the border

A three-shade champion tartan

For the Liberal Party in England, the 1970s were a decade of growing electoral success and self-confidence. Organization was strengthened; apart from attracting protest voters from both left and right, it built up an ever-increasing core of dedicated supporters.

This rising tide of popularity stopped short at the border. In Scotland, Liberal fortunes were so low that they did not even contest all parliamentary by-elections. As the Scottish Nationalists rose, the Liberals slipped to fourth place.

Even at local level, the community campaigning techniques developed in Liverpool and put in effect throughout England and Wales failed to attract significant support.

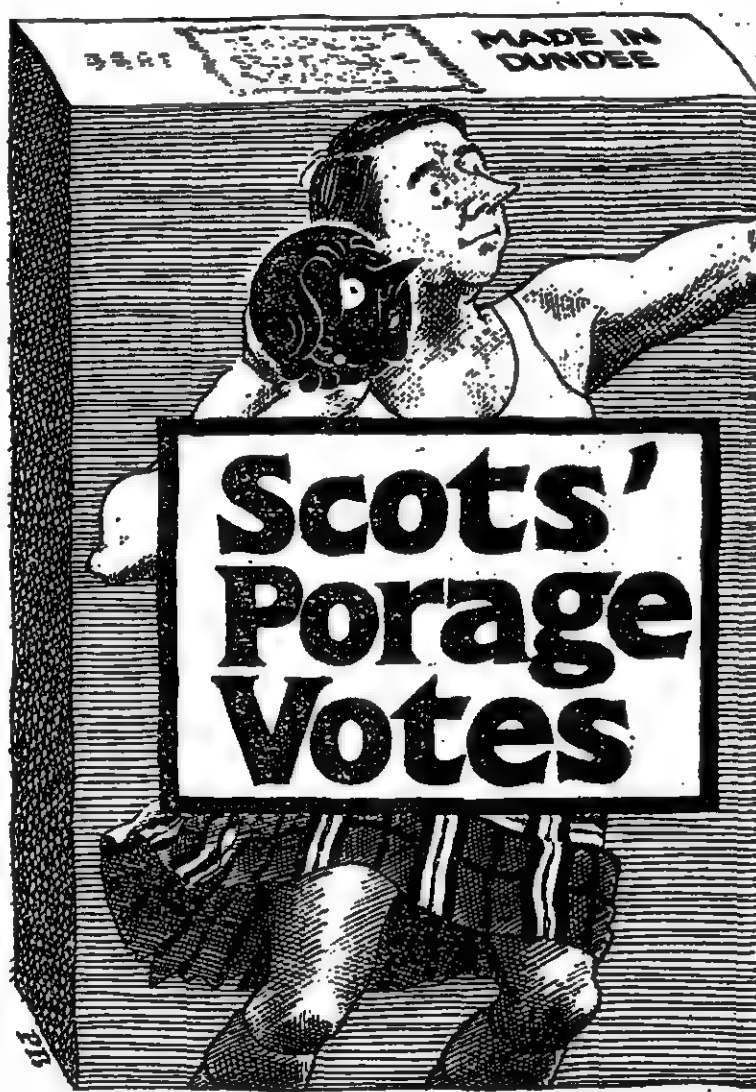
The tide began to turn in 1979, when the SNP - devolution no longer being a live political issue - lost much of its attraction. The Liberal went into the 1983 general election with only two MPs, David Steel and Russell Johnston, to Grimond having decided not to stand again. Jim Wallace held Grimond's Orkney and Shetland seat - showing that the islanders' attachment was not just to Grimond personally - while Malcolm Bruce captured Gordon and Arch Kirkwood Roxburgh and Berwickshire. Charles Kennedy, against all the odds, took Ross, Cromarty and Skye for the SDP.

There have since been significant local election successes. Between January and July this year the Alliance (principally the Liberals, the SDP still having no substantial Scottish base) have taken 22.6 per cent of local authority votes, compared with 21 per cent for the Conservatives and 37.9 per cent for Labour. It has done particularly well in Aberdeen, Fife, North-East and Perth and Kinross.

As they look ahead to the next election, the Liberals might be tempted to chase the Labour vote. It is, after all the biggest: Labour holds 41 of the 72 Scottish parliamentary seats; of Glasgow's 11, all are Labour except Hillhead, which Roy Jenkins wrested from the Tories in a by-election in 1982 and successfully defended, against a strong Labour challenge, in 1983.

But Labour should not be the target. Its present standing in the Scottish opinion polls is almost that of the three other parties combined and is 4.5 per cent higher than its vote in the 1983 general election.

One of Mrs Thatcher's principal achievements is to have solidified the Scottish vote behind Labour, whose promises of unequivocal



government action are seen as the only answer to Scotland's social and economic problems. Scottish Liberals come from and speak to a different world.

Against such Labour impregnability, the Liberals might be tempted to go for the Tory vote, especially with Tory support further eroded by the threat to the Gartoch and Ravensraig steelworks. Two parliamentary seats which the Liberals

have the best chance of winning (they were narrowly beaten in 1983) are Tory-held: Edinburgh West and Fife North-East.

But the Liberals should not underestimate the abiding strength of Scottish Toryism, especially outside the cities. Come the election, disaffection over rates revaluation and teachers' pay might be forgotten, or set aside in the cause of party loyalty. Even in Scotland, perhaps

PARTY STANDINGS IN SCOTLAND: 1983 GENERAL ELECTION

	1983	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Labour	38.1	46	44	47	46	50	52	47	44
Conservative	28.1	24	26	24	23	17	15	15	15
SNP	11.7	14	14	14	14	14	12	13	15
Alliance	24.5	16	16	20	21	18	22	19	18

Source: System Three.

Guidelines for the Gulf's ghostlike workforce

Seldom if ever in history can so many have gone voluntarily to work for so few. The mass influx of labour into the Arab Gulf states, triggered by the oil price explosion of 1973-4 and the huge increase in revenues which followed, has successfully defied the statisticians.

Everyone involved, it seems, has an interest in keeping the immigrants uncountried. They themselves are often in breach of some regulation and therefore have good reason to avoid the official process of obtaining work permits, residence visas and the like. The recipient countries are embarrassed to admit the extent of their dependence on foreign labour, and for the countries of origin the workers' earnings have become a crucial source of foreign exchange.

Figures produced in the Gulf suggest a total of around three million foreign workers in 1980 in the six GCC states - Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates and Oman. But other estimates, based on more recent figures for 1983-4, derived from countries of origin, give a total of some 5.750,000 - the great majority from India, Pakistan and Egypt.

Expatriates are easily the majority of the Gulf workforce, and in some states - most strikingly in the UAE and Qatar - they are even the overwhelming majority of the population. They seem to be a paradoxical subject for a report by the Minority Rights Group. But the MRG, which also aims to secure justice for "majority groups suffering discrimination", argues in a report published last week that they are a group whose human and civil rights are constantly violated.

The report's author, Roger Owen, suggests that perhaps the only thing this vast and disparate group has in common is "lack of protection due to the absence of clearly defined legal rights, the ineffectiveness of local courts and administrative procedures and the fact that they are overly dependent on the goodwill of their institutional or individual sponsor".

Those most at risk, according to Owen, are "the large numbers of males housed in construction camps at some distance from major urban centres; and female domestic servants". The former are vulnerable because they often cannot get out of

the camps to contact the appropriate authorities, while the latter are excluded even from the formal protection of local labour laws. They often have to work on back-breaking tasks for up to 16 hours a day. "Some are undoubtedly subject to sexual abuse from their employers," while others "judge from the London court case in May 1985 involving a Kuwaiti princess of the ruling al-Sabah family, are regularly beaten". Governments of both host and guest countries are generally more concerned about the economic effects of the migration than about the treatment of the migrants themselves. Exporting governments value the foreign exchange sent home in remittances, which helps to finance economic growth - though hardly enough to offset the damage done by the explosion in oil prices itself. Importing governments are worried at the sight of the indigenous population being swamped by the new arrivals, yet in practice are under pressure from that same population to enlarge a workforce which helps provide them with higher living standards.

In the last few years, however, oil revenues in Gulf countries have fallen dramatically, and by 1984 there were "declining wages and salaries for many nationals and foreigners alike". Inevitably, many of the migrants have had to go home. Early this year the exodus from Saudi Arabia alone was said to be running at 60,000 a month. Those who remain have had to accept wage cuts and have also found immigration laws much more strictly enforced.

What can be done for them? Owen suggests that the GCC states, as West Germany has done for the Turks, will have to face the question of how best to integrate the long-stay workers into their own societies, for instance by introducing a minimum wage law. "As well as helping to improve working conditions for foreign workers, this would force employers to think twice about importing unnecessary staff - or perhaps to try to find local personnel instead."

Edward Mortimer

"Migrant workers in the Gulf (MRG Report No. 68) available from 29 Chancery St, London WC2N 3JF, price £1.50 plus 20% P&P.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE DIFFERENCE IN DUNDEE

The Liberal Party has something to live up to this week at Dundee. Its Social Democratic partners have just concluded a notably constructive party conference which has displayed the SDP as internally cohesive and as having activists who are as wedded as their leaders to responsible national politics. Dr David Owen's attempt to fashion a new modus vivendi between firmness and fairness - between capitalist competitiveness and social concern - may founder when his politics of compromise are exposed to detailed analysis in an election campaign. Nevertheless, there is now massive evidence that a significant proportion of the electorate wishes to attempt such a synthesis and is inclined to turn from Mrs Thatcher because she has, allegedly, failed to make her firmness fair. That discontent is ground on which the Alliance can build its appeal to the people over the next two to three years. But, of course, the edifice of Alliance politics will not stand unless the Liberals are seen to be as responsible and sensible as their partners.

It is, to say the least, an open question whether they can meet this challenge. They do not, to start with, have a guiding cadre of politicians at their apex who have experience of office and who themselves look office-worthy. They only have Mr David Steel who has learned the demeanour and rhetoric of a statesman, performs exceptionally well on television, and has shown himself fleet of foot in recognizing what has to be said, and done to keep the different elements of a variegated party in touch with political reality on the unfolding issues of public life. But more significant than the lack of experience at the Liberal apex is the diversity among the Liberal rank and file, which not infrequently gives the impression of a party insufficiently coherent for government.

The Liberal grass-roots in local government and politics are the party's strength, but they are also a weakness. Intellectual diversity accommodates a galaxy of special-issue pressure groups who not infrequently push their

case to a point which vitiates the party's attempt to look like one operating in the real world of national politics. There is also a strong unilateralist wing whose attitudes come close to those in the Labour Party from which Dr Owen and his colleagues were escaping when they defected.

That there is a meaningful distinction between them hardly needs saying. After all, there must be reasons why a citizen interested in political activism should choose one party rather than the other. The Liberal Party, with its unilateralist wing, its strong dash of utopianism, its often leftist and hyper-equalitarian articulation of minority politics, is in many respects more left-wing (using the term in the traditional sense) than the SDP. But it is not by that token more radical.

On the contrary, if radicalism means new approaches and new attitudes, it is the SDP which is the more radical of the two. It is Dr Owen's attempt to accommodate the lessons in political economy taught by Mrs Thatcher's government which really represents an attempt at new politics, even if the SDP leader has yet to convince the nation that he knows how to do this. What is more, the attempt Dr Owen is making has a strong appeal to a nation which is shown by every test of public opinion to be deeply anti-socialist, but which also believes that Mrs Thatcher is insufficiently willing to foster social fairness and heal social divisions.

It is by no means clear that the Liberals will be able to respond to the public call for responsible opposition, politics as wholeheartedly as they do to the bees in the bonnets of their own activists. This doubt does not matter simply in terms of the general image that the Liberal Party will present to the public. Of course, that is important; a Liberal Party which presages a leadership harassed by activists on defence, or on law and order, in the Labour style would be deeply damaging to Alliance prospects. But the deeper cause of concern is what the current nature of Liberal activism suggests about Liberal candidates,

and about those who select them.

If the Alliance were to achieve the position it hopes for in the next parliament, holding the casting vote which will determine the next government, its political character would be determined by the attitudes of new MPs thronging the benches of the House of Commons for the first time, much as the Labour Party did in 1922. It might avoid the mistake of Labour members in those days who demonstrated their contempt for parliamentary procedure until they found that it got them nowhere, but the new blood in parliament would determine the nature of the Alliance as a political force, and differences between the SDP and Liberals would matter.

On the whole, SDP candidates give the impression of the kind of responsibility, and of an attachment to commonsense politics, which responds very nearly to the attitude of voters who are looking for something new, and who wish to escape from the old stereotyped arguments. It is by no means clear that the Liberal contingent (which, in all probability, would be the larger of the two, unless there was a massive Alliance victory) would be of the same sort. Although a Mr Paddy Ashdown can, as an individual in the present parliamentary Liberal Party, be lauded by pragmatism, it is by no means clear that a triumphalist influx of Paddy Ashdowns in the House of Commons would be so amenable.

The nation will want to know what several benches of Liberal MPs would look like, what their relations with their leaders and with the SDP would be. Mr Steel is interested in power; he heads a party which is interested in ideas, often of a bizarre kind. Both are in partnership with an SDP whose activists and potential candidates seem very much like the sort of citizens whom they expect to vote for them. The Liberals have to look like a plausible political movement if the Alliance is to make headway when the nation is at the serious business of choosing its next government.

ARABS REVISITED

The stated purpose of Mrs Thatcher's short Middle Eastern tour, which starts today, is to indicate British support for the governments of the two Arab countries to be visited - Egypt and Jordan - and to encourage them in their efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. That is, of course a longstanding aim of British policy in the region, and it therefore comes as something of a shock to realize that this is actually the first visit ever paid by a serving British prime minister to either country, if we except Churchill's sojourn in Egypt, then under British occupation, during World War II.

Extensive foreign travel by prime ministers is in fact a fairly recent phenomenon, and since it became the vogue British prime ministers, while not neglecting the Middle East, have reserved the favour of their presence for those countries which are at a safe distance from Israel and which also, by a happy chance, are generally those with most oil to sell and therefore most money to spend. But even those Arab countries are sensitive about the Palestinian issue and the least a

visiting stateswoman can do, if she wishes to be well received there, is to express a lively interest in a "just and durable solution" to the conflict. Sooner or later the time was bound to come when it was felt desirable to lend credibility to such statements by visiting countries more directly involved.

In Egypt Mrs Thatcher will lay a wreath on Sadat's tomb. In Jordan, like the Queen before her, she will visit Palestinian refugees and pay her respects to those who tell fighting against Israel in 1967. Presumably, as in the Queen's case, those latter gestures will be seen as controversial by some. There will be pressure for her to follow up fairly swiftly with a visit to Israel - pressure which in her case there can be no good reason to resist. Since the Queen's visit to Jordan, Israeli policies have become more acceptable, in degree if not in kind. More to the point, Mrs Thatcher as a politician can tell the Israelis what she thinks of their policies, in a way that the Queen cannot. Indeed, it would only be by persuading Israel to respond

more positively to King Hussein's overtures that she could offer him any encouragement worth having.

As usual, moderate Arabs are looking primarily to the Americans for help, and Britain's role, if any, is to help bring the Americans round. But Mrs Thatcher, while no doubt sympathizing in some degree with the substance of Arab grievances, shares President Reagan's misgivings about the idea of an international conference on the Middle East (including the Soviet Union) and his reluctance to deal directly with the PLO so long as it withholds clear recognition of Israel's right to exist. Things might be different if the Arab side called for direct, bilateral negotiations with Israel; but it looks as though neither King Hussein nor Mr Arafat feels able to go that far, in the teeth of bitter Syrian hostility and much internal Palestinian opposition, without a much stronger assurance of American support than Mr Reagan is willing to give. The "peace process" is moribund, and it will take more than a visit from Mrs Thatcher to revive it.

THE FATHER'S ROLE

Last week two Court of Appeal judges denied a young mother the right to bring up her two sons, aged eight and six, because they felt that the boys' accountant father could give them a better standard of life than their mother and the plumber with whom she was living. Expressed in these bald terms, the decision looks as if it was based on considerations of class and material advantage; but closer analysis shows that the case was really about something else. It involved what Lord Justice Ackner called "a conflict of different values" between the adults concerned.

The choice which faced the court was between the father's wish to foster the traditional values of thrift, self-discipline and academic achievement and the freer and easier approach to life of the mother and her lover, with their more indulgent attitude over issues such as the time the boys should go to bed and the amount of time they should spend doing their homework rather than watching television.

By awarding care and control to the father, the judges were recognizing that much more is involved in a child custody decision than a mere consideration of the relative abilities of the parents to provide ad-

equately for the children's day-to-day physical needs, and that the emotional, spiritual and intellectual environment in which they are to be brought up is at least as important to their welfare. What conscientious parent can say that the Court of Appeal was wrong to back the father's values?

The decision to award care and control of the children to the father reflects a growing judicial awareness of the changing roles of parents within families today. As more fathers participate equally in the upbringing of their children, and more mothers go out to work, the case for applying the old principle that, other things being equal, young children should be brought up by their mother after the breakdown of their parents' marriage, has become somewhat weaker. As the Court of Appeal decision shows, the contest between the "full-time mother" and the "part-time father" is not quite as one-sided as it used to be.

One reflection of this is the growing tendency of the courts to make orders for joint custody coupled with an order for care and control in favour of one parent, as happened in the Court of Appeal case. The virtue of a joint custody order - com-

mitted in its recent report on matrimonial causes procedure - is that it reinforces each parent's right to an equal say in all major decisions concerning the children, irrespective of who happens to have their daily care.

After more than a decade in which our matrimonial law has often seemed to favour wives and mothers unduly at the expense of husbands and fathers, these developments go some way to correcting the previous imbalance. Recent changes in the law, notably the House of Lords decision in *Richards v Richards*, protecting a husband from eviction from the matrimonial home at the whim of his wife because she happens to have the children, and the 1984 Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act, requiring the court to take into account a wife's ability to increase her earning capacity and to consider terminating her right to maintenance, have a similar objective. The widely-varying facts of individual cases will continue to require a sensitive and finely-tuned response from the courts. It is reassuring to see that they are prepared to take into account the changing expectations and responsibilities of the men and women who nowadays embark upon marriage and parenthood.

Implications of Soviet defection

From Mr Peter Coni

Sir, Why is Mr Gorbachev's public defection hailed as a triumph for Britain? If he has been supplying us with information for many years without Moscow suspecting him, one must treat his covering being blown as a major disaster. Whereas we have apparently enjoyed accurate identification of Soviet agents in Britain, and of British and foreign citizens who have been recruited by Moscow for espionage in this country, such information - at least from one uniquely placed source - must now cease.

It may raise morale for it to be known that one of Moscow's most trusted men has been working for us, and that the West has no monopoly in breeding traitors. That apart, it would seem more rational to report the necessity for his public defection as a calamity.

Yours etc.
PETER CONI,
3 Churton Place, SW1,
September 13.

From Mr A. R. Lynch

Sir, Russian diplomats spy. British gather intelligence. What is the difference?

Yours faithfully,
A. R. LYNCH,
204 Queen's Quay,
38 Upper Thames Street, EC4,
September 13.

Alliance leadership

From Mr Roger A. Jones

Sir, I fear that your perceptive editorial on the Alliance last Saturday (September 7) was spoiled by a whiff of red herring. The question of which of the Davids will lead the Alliance is really a non-issue, and I don't think it is likely to deter the electors. Far from it.

For one can see many advantages in having an Alliance team led by two strong personalities of prime ministerial calibre. And if the two parties are successful in attaining power, it will be a relief to know that the leader who is finally adopted will be supported and held in check (should he develop any non-sensical notions) by his deputy from the other party.

Consider the situation in the Conservative Party where no one seems able to challenge the wilder policies of its leader. Compare it with the Labour Party where poor Mr Kinnock is so preoccupied with showing the acceptable face of socialism that he has no time to curb the anarchy within his ranks.

The Alliance as it is currently constituted offers useful checks and balances, and is far from being a pig in a poke. More like a pearl in an oyster I would say.

Yours truly,
R. A. JONES,
43 Arle Road,
Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire,
September 8.

Burning of stubble

From Mr Robert Eagle

Sir, Flying a light aircraft from Bristol to Berkshire on Wednesday I ran into yet another hazard presented by farmers who burn their stubble. En route, I counted a dozen fields burning below me. Up to 3,500 feet a dense brown haze restricted visibility in many places to about a mile.

This is less than the minima for private pilots allowed by the Civil Aviation Authority and would be classified as "instrument meteorological conditions". There is no doubt that this smog was very largely due to stubble burning - at 2,500 feet you could smell the smoke.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT EAGLE,
15 Marlborough Road, W4,
September 12.

Patents pending

From Mr D. R. Jamieson

Sir, Alan Hamilton's interesting article about the centenary of the motorcycle (August 28) contains an error of fact which should not remain uncorrected. The patent for the "riding car" was not "granted to Daimler at Bad Cannstatt, Germany, on August 29, 1885". Gottlieb Daimler applied for the patent on August 29, 1885. The grant was not announced in the German patent journal until June 23, 1886.

In the meantime, Daimler had on September 11, 1885, applied for a British patent whose specification was published during the week ending July 31, 1886. The British Edward Butler had applied for his motorcycle patent on October 14, 1884, but his application was not granted.

There are thus a number of patent anniversaries to choose from, but details of them all are available in the Science Reference Library. Yours faithfully,
D. R. JAMIESON,
(Head of Industrial Property Section),
The British Library,
Science Reference Library,
25 Southampton Buildings,
Chancery Lane, WC2,
September 4.

NHS waiting lists

From Mr L. S. Lovell

Sir, None of the measures proposed in your recent leaders and letters from readers is likely to solve the most urgent problem in the National Health Service - the totally unacceptable waiting times for consultations and treatment in many regions.

In present circumstances it seems crazy that consultants in the specialties concerned should be engaged other than on a full-time basis.

While I accept that there may have been sound reasons in 1948 for

Causes behind Handsworth disorders

From the Chairman of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation

Sir, The Prime Minister and the Home Secretary have chosen to regard the recent events in Handsworth as the result simply of criminal behaviour. In attempting to dissociate such disturbances from social conditions they have failed to recognise the complexity of the problem.

Probation officers know that most crime is associated with wider social issues. It is not sufficient to react to the symptoms; the underlying causes must be tackled.

The background to the recent breakdown of social order is poor housing, grotesque levels of unemployment and the lack of social amenities and opportunities which the majority of citizens in this country take for granted.

Although the Government has invested £20m in the Handsworth area since 1981, the help, substantial though it appears, has been insufficient to eradicate the heritage of past neglect of the area: more needs to be done. In that process the people of Handsworth should be given some control over the important decisions which affect their lives. Until that is recognised we shall see further outbreaks of this kind.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC MORRELL, Chairman,
Association of Chief Officers of Probation,
11/12 Portland Terrace,
Jesmond,
Newcastle upon Tyne,
September 12.

From Mr R. W. Stephenson

Sir, In all the comment on the Handsworth disorders one vital point seems to have been missed.

That is that the violence must have been prepared and organised well in advance and only waiting for the trigger. If not, whence did all those armed with petrol bombs, etc. suddenly appear?

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT W. STEPHENSON,
3 Morningside, Prestbury,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Pseudo-science

From Sir George Porter, FRs

Sir, Professor John Gunn's letter (September 9) referring to a report in *The Times* (August 31), of some remarks that I made in answer to a question about the "soft-sciences" (not my term) gives me the opportunity to clarify those remarks.

They were made more in sorrow than in anger and I had no wish to "attack" or offend my friends who are doing serious research work in the behavioural sciences. In fact I think that most of them would go along with me in emphasizing the importance of these sciences but pointing out that much harm is being done by those who pronounce on every aspect of human behaviour on the flimsiest evidence, and in the name of science.

The natural sciences are not harmless; there was an occasion when a professor in that field professed wildly about spoon-bending but it was a short-lived aberration and such cases are fortunately rare. In the natural sciences and engineering, applications usually follow years of fundamental research and there are very strict professional and legal

Case for Star Wars

From Mr Michael Birchmell

Sir, Mr Keyworth II, in your issue of September 6, gives as one of the justifications for the SDI that Soviet first-strike weapons could be negotiated down to very low levels.

I wonder how such negotiations could in fact proceed. With the US possessing missile defence and the Soviet Union not, the party in quantity of nuclear arms, which made possible the SALT negotiations, would be displaced by a disparity in the area of quality.

This disparity would undermine the basis on which the negotiations could be founded, since it would be impossible to find an agenda for negotiation on which both sides could agree. Indeed the current negotiations are foundering on this very difficulty.

Why in fact should bilateral

Control of the Broads

From the Chairman of the Royal Yachting Association Council

Sir, Sir Peter Scott and his co-signatories, in their well-intentioned attempt to simplify a very complex issue (September 3) are unfair in identifying the Great Yarmouth Port and Haven Commissioners as potential wreckers of the proposed Bill to establish a central Broads authority.

With the support of the Royal Yachting Association, the Inland Waterways Association, and literally thousands of individual boat owners, the Commissioners have simply challenged the promoters of the Bill to demonstrate why it is necessary for the future of Broadland that they acquire control of the navigations.

The Commissioners have expressed their willingness to enter into a partnership with the new authority on the same basis as that

to be established with the Anglian Water Authority. If there are to be accusations of inflexibility, it might be as well to examine the motives of the promoters in refusing to discuss the principle of co-partnership with the Commissioners.

Those of us who live and sail on the Broads share the concern of the Countryside Commission about the disappearing wildlife and growing pollution. What we cannot understand is why the solution proposed by the promoters of the Bill should depend upon the highly experienced and competent Commissioners being required to surrender their powers.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. EVANS, Chairman,
Royal Yachting Association Council,
Victoria Way,
Woking,
Surrey,
September 5.

From Mr A. F. T. Marrian

Sir, If Enoch Powell foresaw the Handsworth riots (report, September 12) did he also foresee that two members of the community would die protecting their Queen's property?

Yours faithfully,
A. F. T. MARRIAN,
1 Coulson Street, SW3,
September 13.

From Mr H. G. Ward

Sir, It must now be asked just how many of the Handsworth unemployed are, in fact, employable?

Yours sincerely,
HARVEY G. WARD,
268 Bath Street, Glasgow.

From the Reverend Arthur Hurd

Sir, Has Professor Stafford Beer (September 13) never heard of human nature?

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR HURD,
10 Rectory Close,
East Hoathly, Lewes, Sussex,
September 13.

From Mr William Pugh

Sir, Reading your letters page today (September 13) on the subject of the Handsworth riots, I was interested to notice that all but one of your six contributors wrote from the south of England.

How can Birmingham's inner-city anguish be solved from comfortable addresses in Cheltenham, London, and Surbiton?

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM PUGH,
70 Willows Road,
Balsall Heath, Birmingham,
September 13.

From Mr Philip Goddard

Sir, I was shocked and horrified to read in your report today (September 12) on poverty in Handsworth that "barely one in three adults possesses a credit card".

Is there no limit to the indignities imposed by modern-day urban deprivation?

Yours faithfully,
P. GODDARD,
11 Exeter Road, Kilburn, NW2.

requirements to be fulfilled before a new product, such as a drug, is released to the public.

John Gunn expresses my views exactly in the penultimate paragraph of his letter, when he says "Many profess expertise in psychology, criminology and the like - few have real knowledge... knowledge in the sciences he [Sir George] attacks is still rudimentary; furthermore they can, as he said, have an important impact on society".

Professor Gunn and other peers of the professions in question must know very well who are the many and who are the few. They know also which courses teach psychology as part of a rigorous training in several sciences and those in which it is delivered to students with no scientific understanding.

A determined stance by all of us against pseudo-science, wherever it is found, would greatly strengthen our campaign for "greater investment of resources and talent" in science and particularly in the social and behavioural sciences.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE PORTER,
The Royal Institution,
21 Albemarle Street, W1,
September 11.

negotiations continue to be a sine qua non where the US has ballistic missile defence? If US defence can deny the Soviet Union a nuclear first-strike capacity, why is Mr Keyworth not looking forward to US unilateral reductions in strategic armaments?

Mr Reagan believes that MAD (mutually assured destruction) is immoral and dangerous. What need, where the US can defend itself, or at least its weapons of revenge, for the US to keep large quantities of nuclear missiles for deterrence? It should be looking forward to cutting them unilaterally to any level it sees fit, regardless of what the Soviet Union might do.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BIRCHMELL,
20 Ravenswood Road,
Bristol,
September 8.

to be established with the Anglian Water Authority.

If there are to be accusations of inflexibility, it might be as well to examine the motives of the promoters in refusing to discuss the principle of co-partnership with the Commissioners.

Those of us who live and sail on the Broads share the concern of the Countryside Commission about the disappearing wildlife and growing pollution. What we cannot understand is why the solution proposed by the promoters of the Bill should depend upon the highly experienced and competent Commissioners being required to surrender their powers.

Yours faithfully,
J. M. EVANS, Chairman,
Royal Yachting Association Council,
Victoria Way,
Woking,
Surrey,
September 5.

allow an accurate assessment to be made of the size of the problem. And incidentally, this is the only way to counter the popular belief that consultants have an interest in long waiting lists since these encourage patients to seek private treatment which is immediately available.

Yours faithfully,
L. S. LOVELL,
Kiln Park House,
Burton Ferry,
Milford Haven,
Pembrokeshire,
September 5.

ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 16 1875

A local insurrection in Bosnia-Herzegovina (now provinces of Yugoslavia) against Turkey which had governed there since 1739; one which overshadowed the complex Eastern Question. Our Correspondent was an American volunteer, William James Stillman (1828-1901) who later became a permanent member of staff.

HERZEGOVINA

(FROM OUR AUSTRIAN CORRESPONDENT.) VIENNA, SEPT. 14.

Whatever may be the ultimate result of the insurrection in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the present uncontrollable effect has been to bring great misery and suffering on the population of the insurgent districts. Nor can it be otherwise in a Civil War in which not only portions of the population have risen against the constituted authority, but likewise that two classes of the people are in arms against each other. To understand what that means it must be recollected that the vendetta is as much an established institution in these parts as it is in Corsica or Albania. Guerrilla warfare under these circumstances easily becomes a war of general destruction and extermination, and such, if accounts can be trusted, is the state in the insurgent districts, as far as they have been accessible. They speak of villages deserted, of families exterminated or dispersed, persons driven from house and home carrying on a miserable existence in the mountains; and these accounts may be credited far more than any military bulletins for all round the frontier of the insurgent districts there is ocular evidence of all this misery, north east, and west of the Provinces in insurrection, while the emigration has set in of fugitives seeking refuge across the border. Well-nigh 20,000 people have come over the Save into the Austrian military frontier districts, and these have been so far luckier than their countrymen on the other side, as they could take away with them some of their cattle and other goods and chattels. They come among kind and sympathizing people, who do all in their power to relieve their distress, while the military authorities, who still rule in that portion of the military frontier district, which has not yet been given over to civil administration like the rest of the military frontier district, are assisting as much as they can. It is no small inconvenience for the harvest in those parts has been anything but abundant this year. Above all, the maintenance of the cattle causes great difficulty. Much worse than these refugees from Bosnia are those who have come from all the insurgent districts in the Herzegovina to the Dalmatian towns on the coast - above all the Ragusa; and to accommodate them the old lazaretto, with some buildings which adjoin it has been chosen. Such has been, however, the influx of late, that a large number of a stable had to be added for their accommodation and there they are crowded together - mostly women, children and old men - depending entirely on public and private charity. If the society of the friends of the suffering Ragusa, instead of debating on foreign politics, would concentrate their efforts to relieve this actual misery, they would indeed be friends of the suffering Ragusa. These are a sad, accessible, and their relief needs middle men. As for doing anything for those who have remained in the country, it is an illusion, for they are for the moment inaccessible, and any help meant for them might easily be seized by the insurgents instead of relieving the misery caused by it, if not turned into account by those who in all such cases play with the credulity of philanthropists.

The insurgents driven away from before Trebinje are collecting in the district of Zuebi, to the south east. This is a high and very much intersected mountain district, bordering on Montenegro and on the wildest part of the Austrian district of Cattaro, the Crivascio, which played the most prominent part in the Dalmatian insurrection of 1868. The position is not unsuitably chosen, as it is very difficult to take in front, and has a safe line of retreat, which allows them to get up reinforcements, provisions and ammunition. Before the last movement of Hussein Pasha the position was even more advantageous, for the insurgents had got possession of the narrow strip of Turkish land called the Sutornia, which runs down to the Gulf of Cattaro. Having burnt the three block-houses which the Turks have in that part and driven away the garrison, they took refuge in Austria. But now this road to the sea has been cut off, Hussein Pasha having rebuilt and garrisoned again these block-houses.

The Turkish account of this expedition is now at hand, and according to it the force of 2,000 and four guns, under Hussein Pasha, met the insurgents before the fort of Orab, which they were blockading. After a short but animated skirmish in which the insurgents showed bravery, in spite of their inferiority in numbers, the latter withdrew to their mountain strongholds. The only result of the expedition, to relieve and provision the fort being attained, the Turks returned to Trebinje, where six battalions of regular, 1,000 irregulars and field-guns are concentrated.

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Shades of the forties

From Mr N. MacDiarmid-Gordon

Sir, With regard to Group Captain Niddall's suggested etymology for "souped-up" (September 6) may I suggest that, at least possibly, the origins lie in the crime novels of the 1920s and 1930s? I recall that "soup" was used for nitro-glycerine as "jelly" was for gelignite, by safe blowers.

The extremely high-powered explosive performance of "soup" would surely have appealed as much to the Royal Air Force as it did to peter-men and lead to an easy adoption and adaptation of it word.

Your servant, Sir,
N. G. MACDIARMID-GORDON,
Grange Cottage, Village Road,
Bonchurch, Isle of Wight,
September 6.

From Mr R. M. Maxtone Graham

Sir, "Souped-up" is surely derived not from the modern "supercharge," but from "soup" in the American slang sense of dope given to a horse to make it run faster; see Webster's Dictionary, 1911 edition.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT MAXTONE GRAHAM,
6 Moat Sole,
Sandwich, Kent,
September 7.

SPECIAL REPORT

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY of BELFAST

By Robert Rodwell



Learning that changed course

Queen's University of Belfast is in the process of rapid change. Traditionally, it has always had to provide a full range of courses in Belfast. "From our foundation as Queen's College in 1849, until only 15 years ago, we were the only university in the northern half of Ireland — serving an isolated group on an island well off the coast of Europe, with travel difficulties and heavy xenophobia," is how the vice-chancellor, Sir Peter Froggatt, describes most of its 136-year history.

But the advent of selective funding and the contemporary emphasis on economy have brought greater difficulties than the rigours of 19th-century packet steamers and railways. "Our whole structure, purpose and supply have had to be rethought, against a background of endemic unemployment, recession and cutbacks in the public sector on which so much of the Northern Ireland economy is based."

"We are having to develop our own earning potential when things are difficult for the private sector, and at a time and place where the cards are stacked against us."

The start of Queen's transition came later than the vice-chancellor would have wished — delayed by the four years of suspended animation which all higher education in Northern Ireland experienced between

1978 and 1982 as it waited for the Chilver committee's report on its reorganization.

"We have done a lot to catch up since," Sir Peter said, pointing to the success of some "imaginative and relevant" self-funded programmes outlined below. He cites Queen's project to service the legal system; formation of its own venture-capital company; and the technology centre now being set up to harness university brain-power with the needs of industry.

From long before the troubles Northern Ireland has

Enrolment from overseas is high

suffered a continuous brain drain. "Educationally, it is like a bucket with a hole in it. There's been constant emigration to England and beyond but no immigration to any real extent. If we don't train, say, pharmacists here, then there will simply be no pharmacists," Sir Peter said.

This has always been the rationale for Queen's broad prospectus, which Thatcherite economics now put under threat. There are fears that one or more of its professional schools may have to close. Its School of Dentistry is the smallest in the UK; Pharmacy is

one of the smallest; and continuation of its Department of Architecture and Planning is being questioned by the University Grants Committee.

Any suggestion of closure is certain to be strongly resisted within the university and the province's architects and by the community.

With 7,500 students and almost 800 academic staff, Queen's enrolls 1,750 entrants every year. "We have a hard task keeping to the limit we are set — the difficulty is keeping people out."

Sir Peter, a physician, retires next autumn after 30 years on Queen's staff and 10 as vice-chancellor.

He approves the appointment as Queen's sixth chancellor, earlier this year after his unopposed election by Convocation, of Sir Roland Wright, former chairman of ICI, and his own impending succession by Professor Gordon Beveridge, currently head of chemical and process engineering at the University of Strathclyde.

"The election as chancellor of a well-known industrialist and the appointment as my successor of a very distinguished consultant and academic engineer are evidence that the people involved wish to see the change which I and my colleagues have introduced continued and solidified," Sir Peter said.



The university with industry links: Sir Peter Froggatt, left, Queen's vice-chancellor; QUBIS general manager Desmond Blair, left, and the chairman Professor Colin Campbell, a pro-vice chancellor

Investing in the risk business

Queen's University's commercial offshoot, QUBIS Ltd, is probably unique in investing as a risk-sharing partner in joint ventures with business companies. Indeed, it goes further in this direction than other universities with notable business links, such as Salford and Aberdeen.

QUBIS — Queen's University Business and Industrial Services — was funded from the university's private resources; Department of Education funds were not needed. The wholly owned company with £500,000 capital was established last

October to marry commercially valuable research and development (R & D) on the campus with the business and marketing skills of commerce and industry.

The university's research budgets total more than £4 million a year and are growing. Professor Colin Campbell, the pro-vice chancellor who chairs the QUBIS board of industrial-

ists and academics, said: "We have 900 academics and supporting staff working in some of Europe's best-equipped labs and workshops. QUBIS will pull through appropriate R & D from the laboratory to the market place."

"Clearly, we are eager to strengthen Northern Ireland industry and help counter unemployment here. We are also keen to talk to potential partners and clients in Britain and elsewhere. We will operate internationally."

Last April the company announced its first big contract, from the computer giant, ICL. Worth more than £500,000, it covers university involvement in industrial and commercial software development.

Its first joint venture was in May. Textflow Ltd, located on campus, is a partnership with Belfast printers W. & G. Baird. It takes floppy discs from a word processor, or computer

data transmitted over a telephone line, to produce camera-ready copy for printing, without re-typing by type-setter. Elimination of this secondary key stroking is based on software developed by Queen's Department of Computer Science and funded by Baird.

The launch of the second joint venture — not in the information technology field — is imminent and Campbell points to several other headings in a long list of Queen's areas of expertise where he has hopes of early commercial developments. They include biotechnology, engineering design and manufacture, medical engineering, food technology, lasers, optics, automation and robotics.

People with industrial and commercial backgrounds, rather than academics, staff QUBIS. The general manager, Desmond Blair, has worked in engineering and consultancy. He now has two other executives: an ac-

countant recruited from private practice and an engineer from the shipbuilders, Harland and Wolff.

More capital is available for QUBIS as it grows, Professor Campbell said. "After decades of liaison with industry we have now a 'one door' policy with QUBIS. Universities are complex organizations and it can be difficult for outsiders to find their way around." He shares the view that academics' pride and businessmen's prejudice have been the main obstacles to closer links between universities and the business world but said both are diminishing fast as trust develops.

Asked why a professor of jurisprudence, a rarefied and theoretical subject, should head the QUBIS board, he reveals a long-standing interest in information technology, some familiarity with computers and previous business experience in this field.

£1.25m plan for engineers

Engineering has always been a strength of Queen's. Since its foundation the university has closely supported Northern Ireland's engineering industries. Its faculty of engineering is one of the largest in the UK, with more than 1,000 students and about 300 graduates a year.

Queen's is now spending more than £1.25 million over the next two years to establish a technology centre. It will provide improved teaching facilities and upgrade the faculty's three self-financing industrial liaison units, the oldest of which was set up 40 years ago.

The technology centre was recommended by a committee set up by the vice-chancellor in January and headed by prominent industrialist and former Aston University vice-chancellor, Sir Joseph Pope. In July the senate and academic council endorsed its report and ordered its implementation.

Staff salaries are fully paid by design work

A new building costing about £500,000 will house the centre and a further £750,000 will be spent equipping it. About £300,000 is allocated for a sophisticated computer-aided design and manufacture (CAD/CAM) system for teaching and for the three industrial units — the Materials Testing Station, which serves civil engineering; the Wolfson Signal Processing Unit, which is at the forefront of information technology and the Automation Centre, which designs and makes specialist machine tools and robots, largely for local firms.

The salaries of the units more than 20 staff are fully paid for by their work on design, research and development, and testing contracts for industry.

Access to sophisticated CAD/CAM equipment is essential for teaching engineering students," the Dean of the faculty and acting director of the centre, Professor Gordon Blair, said. "The cost of buying and updating such equipment is enormous — it's very expensive staying in the technological race."

Continued on page 18

Education — the vital link

The steady growth of Northern Ireland's industrial base — even in today's highly competitive business environment — is due in no small part to the sophisticated R&D expertise available to industry from our universities.

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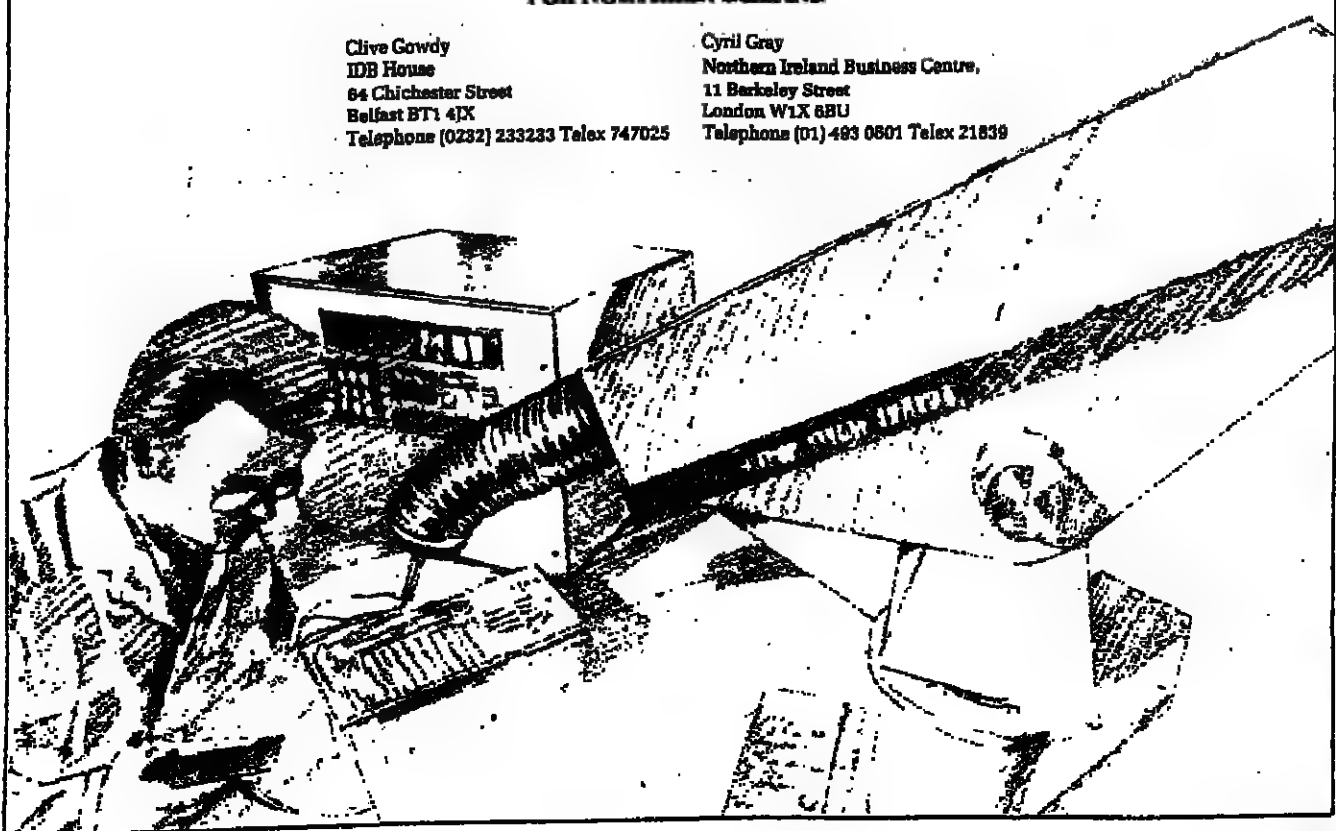
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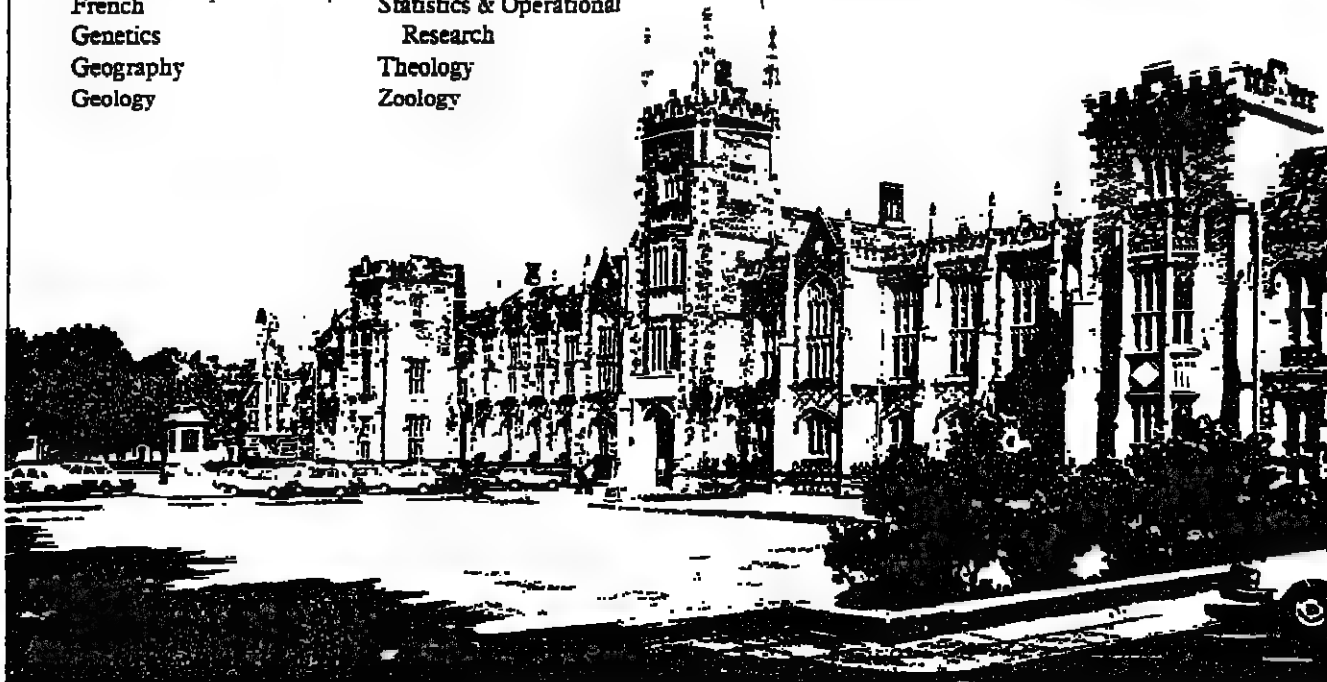
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A diet of food and science

Northern Ireland is the UK's only major food exporting region. Farming and, increasingly, food processing form the central prop of the economy. Agriculture has been taught at Queen's since 1849. Its faculty of agriculture and food science is unique in the UK for, since its formation in 1924, all its staff members have held joint appointments as senior civil service researchers with Stormont's Department of Agriculture (DANI). The faculty and DANI's research divisions share the same spacious site in south Belfast two miles from the main campus.

The heads of the research divisions head the corresponding faculty departments, and there are eight professors and 58 readers and lecturers.

This close link between teaching, applied research and advisory work for the agricultural and processing industries has been warmly commended

by the Commons' select committee on agriculture. The linkage has several benefits for the faculty, said its dean, Professor Gerald Furness.

Staff numbers, their seniority and breadth of experience, are much higher than could be justified by the teaching load only. All our teachers are in daily contact with industry. This leads to a very fresh and direct approach. Our scientific equipment is much better than the university alone could afford. Our post-graduate students can work with a large volume of government and commercially supported research.

The faculty has about 180 undergraduates and about 60 graduates each year in general agriculture, agricultural chemistry, food science and five biological sciences. There are about 75 graduate students a year.

Imposing, very high entry standards, the faculty is intro-



In the food hall: Dr Arthur Gilmour and assistant

ducing three-year honours courses in the five agricultural biological sciences next year.

They replace the four- and five-year honours courses in which students took a primary B.Sc. in pure sciences before taking an honours B.Agr in their chosen applied discipline.

The faculty's major growth has been food science, which the faculty took over in 1971 from the former faculty of applied science and technology.

Only five or six students were enrolled annually during much of the 1970s, but in 1981 there were 12 and we have 27

for the new academic year," said the adviser on studies, Dr Joan Moss. "Food science has attracted appreciable numbers of women students to the faculty for the first time - about half the total. Previously, few women took agricultural degrees."

The rapid growth of the faculty has led to new courses such as business studies and marketing.

Although closely linked with Northern Ireland's agriculture, the faculty is outward-looking. Its graduates work throughout the world, many of the staff have Third World experience and the faculty attracts several research students from abroad.

Since 1976, with British Council backing, it has been closely linked with the University of Khartoum, co-operating in post-graduate training and curriculum development in agriculture, food science and animal production, and in research programmes.

With a regular interchange of staff it is, says the British Council, one of the most effective academic links operated by any UK university with a partner faculty overseas.

The great sporting life

When the Irish rugby international winger and British Lion, Trevor Ringland, crashed over the line to score the spectacular winning try against Scotland at Murrayfield earlier this year, he set Ireland on its way to winning the Triple Crown for only the fourth time in nearly 40 years.

An unassuming and likeable young lawyer, he also underlined the tremendous contribution of his former club, Queen's University, in the Triple Crown success. No fewer than five former Queen's men - Mr Ringland, Phillip Matthews, Nigel Carr, Rab Brady and Brian McCall - were in the winning squad of 21.

Mr Ringland has the double distinction of being a member of the previous Triple Crown side in the 1982-83 season.

Before that there was a noted absence of success, with the previous Triple Crown wins in 1948-49. Some of the great names of rugby from that era and from subsequent years were also Queen's players. The mention of Jack Kyle, Ernie Strathdee, Noel Henderson and

Bill McKay will evoke memories for previous generations of rugby players.

More recent Irish internationals and Lions such as David Robinson, David Hewitt, Cecil Pedlow, Ken Kennedy, Roger Young and David Irwin are more familiar to contemporary players and supporters.

Mr Ringland, one of the brightest jewels in the current Irish crown, attributes his international success partly to his experience at Queen's. "I played with some very good Queen's teams. It was there that we learned the importance of running the ball and of open, attacking play."

Above all, it was also great fun," he said.

The emphasis on fun is one of the keynotes of university sport, and this is particularly apparent at Queen's which has a large range of indoor and outdoor facilities. The physical education centre is one of the largest and the best equipped in

the British Isles and dates from the heady days of the early 1970s when a small number of universities were able to build centres that have remained the envy of other establishments since.

Centre places are quickly snapped up

The Queen's physical education centre has more than 300,000 visits annually and is used by more than 10,000 students, graduates, staff and associates. It has two swimming pools and several sports halls, and it provides a wide range of activities from swimming, basketball and circuit training to archery, dry-skiing and karate. The centre also offers yearly membership to the public, and the 3,000 places are snapped up quickly.

Alan Nichols, the centre's director, said: "This is an extremely good example of

town and gown working together. The philosophy of our department of physical education is that physical recreation will bring physical, social and psychological well-being to the individual, and that it will provide enjoyment as well."

The centre has hosted many important national and international conferences, including this year's "health-related fitness conference" of the British universities physical education association. Internationally-acclaimed sports competitors have used the centre's training facilities. They include Daley Thompson, Steve Ovett and Northern Ireland's Pat Jennings and Mary Peters.

The Queen's "Mary Peters" track, which until now has been administered for public use by a voluntary committee, is being handed over to Belfast City Council, but the university will keep an interest in its future development.

Each year the track hosts the Ulster Games, one of the

European permit meetings.

Good sport is much more than good facilities, however necessary they may be. Participation, within a university, is as important as winning. Queen's can boast many international stars. They include champion athletes Theima Hopkins and more recently Mike Bull; its oarsmen such as David Gray, Ian Kennedy and John Armstrong; and hockey players like the former British hockey international Terry Gregg, and the Irish ladies captain, Margaret Cleghorne.

University sport helps to mould the whole man or woman. The Queen's senior medical officer, Dr Robin Harland, who was medical officer with the Northern Ireland teams at The Edmonton and Brisbane Commonwealth Games, sums it up. "Employers today are looking not only for degrees but for other qualities as well. Sport helps you to knock off some of the rough edges and to develop a rounded personality to complement a useful university degree."

Aif McCreary

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£1.25m plan for engineers

Continued from page 17

"It would not be sensible for each department to have such equipment. The centre will provide all departments with the most advanced systems and will bring together the faculty's teaching resources and industrial units. This will mean students will see industrial manufacturing on and become part of it from time to time."

"The new building will physically link the faculty's two existing buildings so there will be easy access from all departments to new equipment," he said.

Engines developed for US and Japan

The centre will be run commercially. Its services are to be marketed internationally, as the individual engineering departments have been doing.

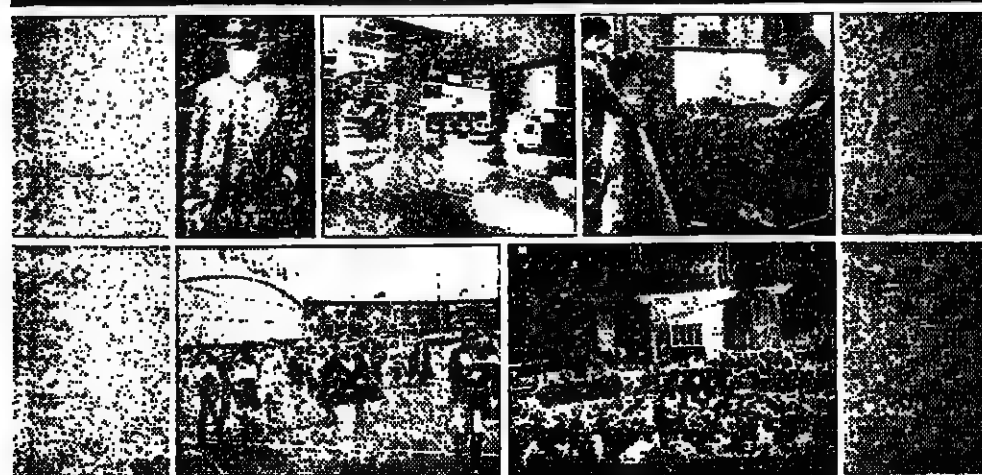
Recently, the faculty has designed and developed engines for Yamaha of Japan and Johnson and Evinrude of the United States, and is developing a promising highly economical powerplant for Ford of Europe.

Wave-energy technology patented by the civil engineering department has been licensed for commercial manufacture by companies in Japan, Norway and Elster. A huge high-pressure fatigue-testing machine, designed and built at Queen's using the heavy machining equipment of Harland and Wolff, was delivered to China early this year.

"We see this kind of activity growing," said Professor Blair. "With the centre properly marketed we could do much more of this sort of thing and so draw more students into design - and that's good for education. We believe, too, that it will provide the best environment to develop students' entrepreneurial skills."

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Investing in Northern Ireland



We've come a long way since John Gallaher started his one-man pipe tobacco business in 1857. Gallaher is a major force in the tobacco industry and one of Northern Ireland's largest private employers with two production centres in Belfast and Ballymena.

Here in Northern Ireland, we make Benson and Hedges, the UK's most popular cigarettes. Silk Cut, a highly successful brand at home and abroad, and Cordon. Britain's best-selling pipe tobacco. Gallaher provides jobs, and is committed to the Youth Training Programme. We're also involved in sponsoring a wide range of community activities and the company is an active participant in the Province's cultural life through its continuing support for the highly acclaimed Ulster Orchestra.

Gallaher's relationship with Northern Ireland spans two centuries and the spirit of enterprise within the company is matched by our continuing investment for the future.

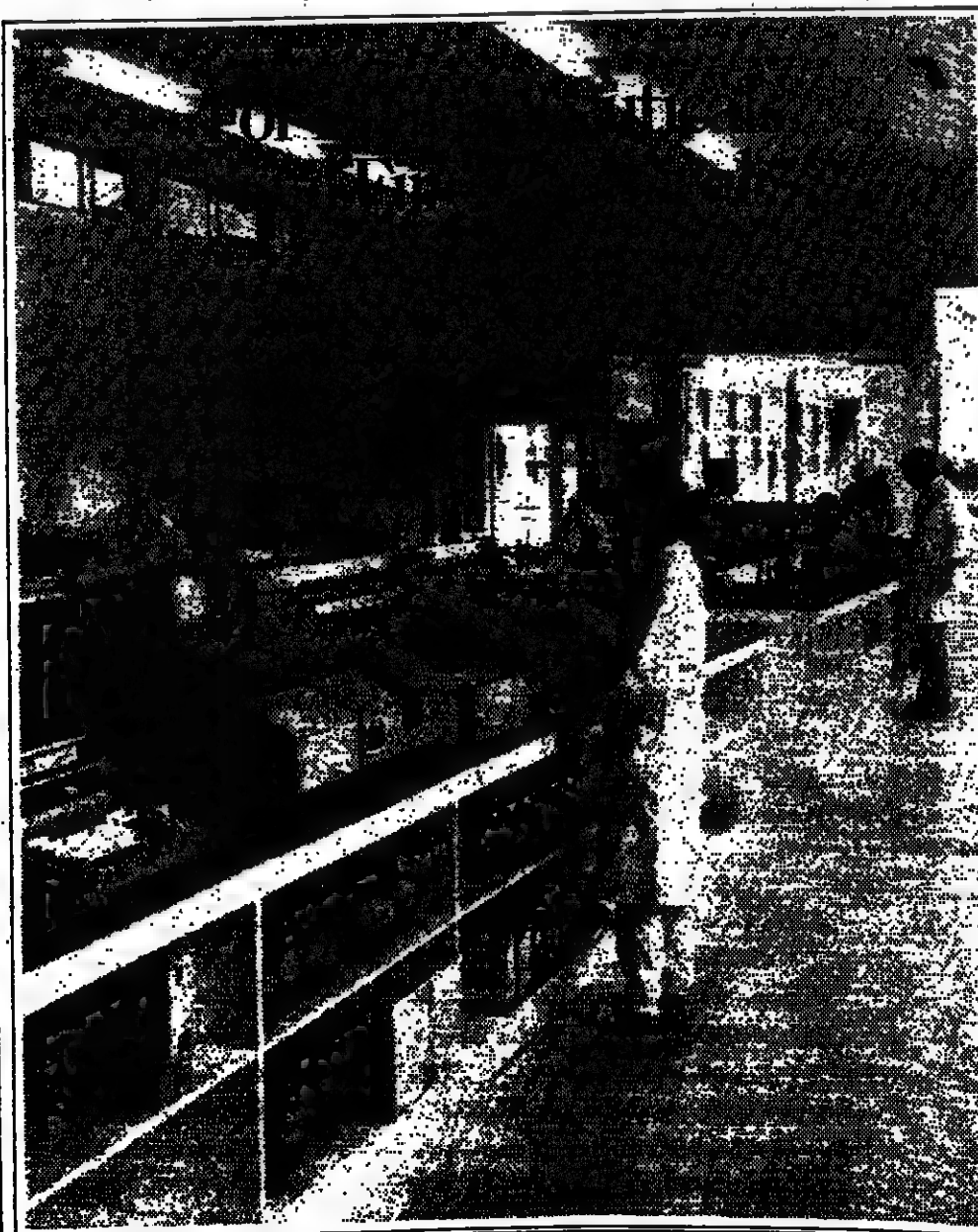


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How the Festival moved upstage

Queen's is in the vanguard of Belfast's burgeoning arts scene. No longer shunned by leading performers, Belfast now hosts the second largest festival, after Edinburgh, in the British Isles.

And the event is unique in that it is run wholly by a special university department. The 23rd annual festival, sponsored and largely housed by Queen's, begins on November 6 and runs for 17 days.

The small full-time staff, boosted by nearly 100 part-timers and dozens of volunteers, hope to sell 100,000 tickets to more than 250 performances of the 100 events. Most of the 15 venues throughout the city are at the university which gave birth to the festival.

Begun by students in the early 1960s, the university soon officially adopted the festival. It is co-sponsored by the Arts Council for Northern Ireland and supported by commercial sponsors including Guinness.

"It was never envisaged that it would grow so large and all-embracing. It now takes place in as many venues as one can manage," said Robert Agnew, deputy to Michael Barnes, director since 1973. It includes many events which would be fringe efforts elsewhere.

The Belfast Festival has



From the law to the land: Valerie Mitchell, left, a senior law lecturer; and Dr Louise Cooke, a lecturer in the Faculty of Agriculture

always included all the performing arts and the criterion for selection is merit rather than whether an event is conventional "culture". This year's programme includes the National Theatre with *Animal Farm*, the Northern Ballet Theatre, two Moscow Radio Symphony Orchestra concerts, locally-born stand-up comic Jimmy Cricket, and the Dutch Swing College Band.

Films are well represented this year - British Film Year - with screenings at the university's 250-seat Queen's Film Theatre. The appearance at this year's festival of Dublin's Abbey Theatre, the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre is also something of a coup. Over a weekend one can see the RSC, the Moscow Radio Symphony Orchestra, the

Northern Ballet and the National. Late-night events include recitals and a full programme of jazz and blues - the Belfast Festival has always been strong on jazz - at the Guinness Spout, an otherwise disused campus dining hall transformed each year by the brewers into a smoky and boozy club. Queen's old library is likewise transformed for folk.

Taking the lead in the world's medical research

The Faculty of Medicine at Queen's, with an annual intake of 154 medical students and 30 to its School of Dentistry, is only a medium size by UK standards but it occupies a leading position in the breadth and depth of its researches.

All 222 academic staff hold joint appointments as consultants at Belfast's Royal Victoria hospital and other hospitals, and most of the faculty's activities share the same 34-acre site at the Royal Victoria and some other clinics.

"There are several areas where Queen's leads the UK and, in some instances, the world," said Professor Norman Nevin, who holds the chair of medical genetics.

"A major problem here is the very high incidence of heart disease, from a combination of hereditary factors, diet, social conditions and stress. A large faculty project, funded by the World Health Organization since 1982, is taking a sample of the population for in-depth study and to assess the relative effect of these factors."

From the unsought distinction of the high risk of heart attack, Queen's and Northern Ireland have won other distinctions. In the mid-1960s Belfast became the first city in the world to put fully-equipped cardiac ambulances on the streets to take resuscitation equipment and coronary care teams to wherever needed.

Work done by the Department of Cardiology has resulted in the development and commercial production locally for the world market of some of the smallest, most portable defibrillators and heart monitoring equipment anywhere.

The compact, self-contained nature of Northern Ireland, with its stable population of 1.5 million, makes it ideal for close medical monitoring. The EEC's first medical project, Eurocrat - registration of congenital abnormalities and twins - began in 1978 and is modelled directly on the prototype scheme begun by Queen's throughout Ulster 23 years before.

Studies by the faculty show the world's highest incidence of spina bifida locally - at 10 per 1,000 live births it is four times greater than that in south-east England - to be multi-faceted,

including genetic factors. But the identification of women at risk and vitamin treatment both before and after conception has reduced the risk of babies being born with spina bifida from one in 20 to only one in 150.

Muscular dystrophy and Down's Syndrome are also abnormalities under close research at Queen's with the studies benefiting from the ease of long-term monitoring of families at risk. The university's work on DNA technology, using enzymes to "chop up" chromosomes and to isolate particular genes, now spreads across the faculties of medicine, science, agriculture and engineering.

A recent world advance, pioneered by Queen's professor of orthopaedic surgery, Professor "Rab" Mollan, has led to the development of ultra-sound methods of diagnosing congenital hip dislocation, which occurs in about five in every 1,000 new-born babies.

In the past 15 years the Department of Surgery has led the world in developing new means of dealing with mass casualties and in the whole realm of multiple injuries. This applies particularly to neuro-surgery and coping with gunshot wounds to the head - an ultimately beneficial spin-off from the intense and unhappy workload that terrorism has imposed upon the Royal Victoria hospital and other casualty departments in Belfast.



A research student at the university's Faculty of Medicine calibrates an atmospheric ozone monitor. The faculty is in a region which throws up a variety of problems for research and clinical study

First word on the law

become the province's much-needed legal publisher.

"For many years the faculty had published the *NI Legal Quarterly* which did not entirely meet the need. Lawyers and other professions, such as accountancy, needed a 'current awareness' service covering recent developments. There was also a need for short courses and conferences on the law. Information about the law here was difficult even for lawyers to find. It was gained haphazardly," Valerie Mitchell, barrister, senior lecturer and chairman of the faculty's SLS committee said.

SLS began publishing the *Bulletin of Northern Ireland Law* at a frequency of 10 issues a year nearly five years ago to meet the need for "current awareness". Edited by both SLS

staff and faculty members, under senior lecturer Judith Eve, camera-ready copy is produced on campus for printing by a Belfast firm. Word processor floppy discs are kept to build up, at no extra cost, a data base of Northern Irish law for use when electronic referral becomes more widespread.

In its first five years SLS has produced an impressive list of traditional textbooks, many written by faculty members. The lack of a standard reference on the Northern Irish legal system has long been met. One particularly economical approach, given the small market, is to produce Northern Irish supplements for major English law textbooks from mainland publishers.

One is the *Law in Action* series of booklets for laymen,

sold through high street bookshops and covering topics of lay concern.

"We have an organized commitment to meet the publishing needs of lawyers, other professions and the public and to satisfy the need for short courses on the law," said Mrs Mitchell. Sponsors are generous in their support - last year they provided £37,000 to bridge the gap between income and expenditure. In addition to its unquantified support through the provision of free accommodation, equipment and services, Queen's is providing £15,000 a year from its development appeal to fund SLS staff.

The SLS programme has been used as a model by other jurisdictions too small to support commercial legal publishers. Variations of the Belfast original are functioning or being studied in the Isle of Man, Hong Kong, Mauritius and elsewhere.

Queen's and ICL are talking business.

The academic brilliance of Queen's University has recently been made available to the business community through its wholly-owned subsidiary - Qubis. This is a dynamic step which provides hi-tech industries in particular with access to the thinking, developments and facilities of this premier seat of learning.

ICL's interest in education and our commitment to business success has meant ICL and Queen's are talking to each other - exploiting opportunities

made possible only by the advances in information technology. Our dedication to better business is such that we have proved to be by far the largest collaborator, facilitating the relevant faculties with the appropriate hardware, software and consultative expertise.

ICL is delighted to be involved at such a level and consider it an honour to play such an essential role in helping industry benefit from the finest academic thinking around today.

We should be talking to each other. **ICL**

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Some areas of current research

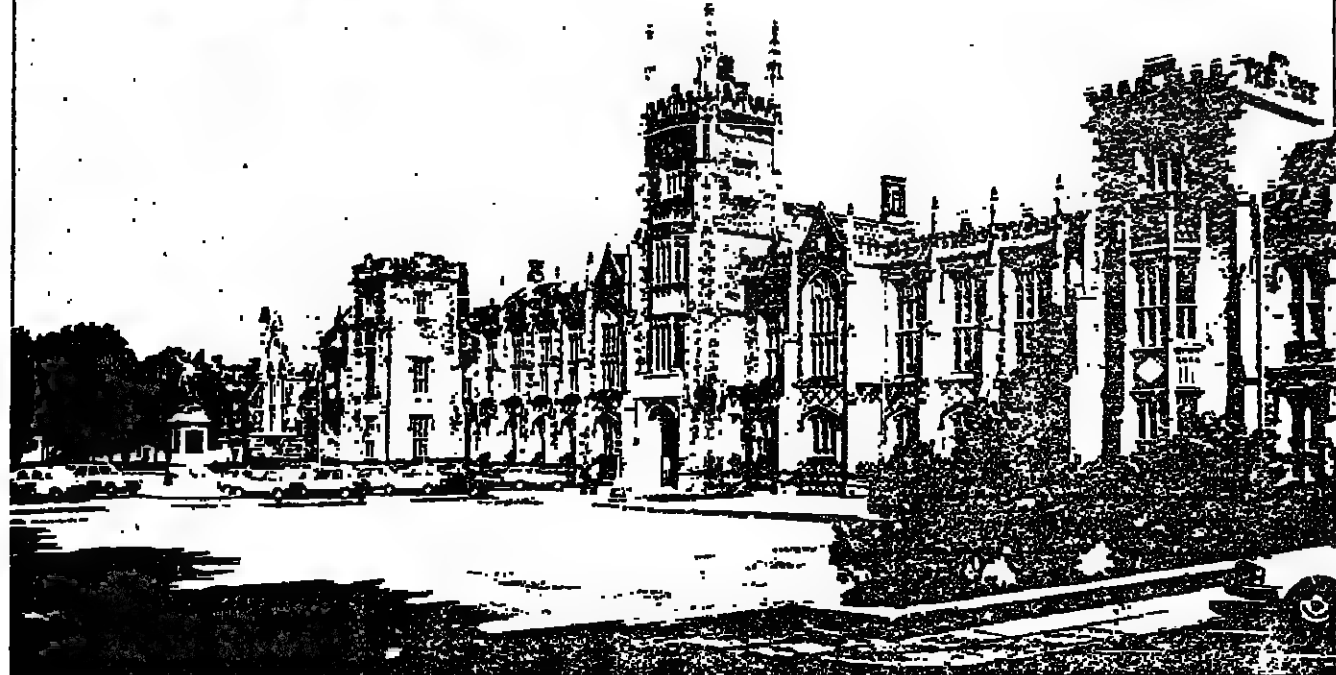
Information Technology	Laser and Optics
Biotechnology	Drug Formulation
Engineering Design and Manufacture	Automation and Robotics
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No.	Company	Capitalization	Price	Chg on Friday	Gross Div	Yield %	P/E
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3	Harrogate	1,200,000	100	+10	12.50	12.50	12.50
4	Greiner	1,200,000	100	+10	12.50	12.50	12.50
5	Hall's	1,200,000	100	+10	12.50	12.50	12.50
6	Kinlen (R. Taylor)	1,200,000	100	+10	12.50	12.50	12.50
7	Goldline	1,200,000	100	+10	12.50	12.50	12.50
8	Johnson & FR	1,200,000	100	+10	12.50	12.50	12.50
9	GEI Int	1,200,000	100	+10	12.50	12.50	12.50
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11	INDUSTRIAL-R	1,200,000	100	+10	12.50	12.50	12.50
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US NOTEBOOK

Chastening experience for the President

A sharp reversal in economic news has dashed hopes of a more vigorous recovery and has concentrated attention on the third quarter "flash" estimate of gross national product, to be published on Friday.

So shocking was the import of the economic news reported to the financial markets last Friday that the Treasury believed long bond yields of 17½ that day, a huge increase. The violent reaction reflected the extreme emotionalism of the American bond markets, and of the worldwide foreign exchange markets.

A week earlier bonds had plunged on the news that the rate of unemployment in August fell from 7.3 per cent in July to 7 per cent.

The Treasury cash long bond fell from 101½ on September 5 to 98½ on September 12 - a drop of 2½ on the week. By September 12 the bond markets were shivering in anticipation of more bad news on Friday in the form of retail sales, industrial production and the producer price index for August.

When the retail sales came in at a 1.9 per cent increase, industrial production up 0.3 (which after revisions amounted to zero) and producer prices fell 0.3 per cent, there was an enormous sigh of relief in the bond markets, as the consensus expectations were seen to have been dashed. On one day - Friday the 13th - bonds rose sufficiently to make up 60 per cent of the loss since September 5.

In the foreign exchange markets, the reaction was in the same direction but less powerful. The non-dollar currencies recovered somewhat but nothing like sufficient to make up for the losses suffered since the peak on August 23.

The Administration and the federal reserve have had a chastening experience. The movie-style tactics employed by the President to promote the drop in the unemployment rate drove interest rates up a quarter of a point and raised the dollar.

Both these changes were inimical to the acceleration of growth that the President sought.

The stock markets continued their decline. Meanwhile, the rate of growth of money M1 continued explosively, as the aggregate rose over 20 per cent a year in August.

Maxwell Newton

Saudi oil-for-jets barter fear undermines Opec pricing

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The likelihood of Saudi Arabia paying in oil for part of the £3 billion contract to buy British Tornado military aircraft which is due to be signed this week is increasing the downward pressure on the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' oil price structure in the run-up to next month's crucial ministerial meeting in Vienna.

Oil contract prices in the United States have already started to fall in the wake of the Saudi decision to offer oil at discount prices over the next six months to Exxon, Texaco, Mobil, Shell and Mitsubishi of Japan.

But suggestions of a \$10 price cut in the world oil prices by Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, at a briefing to senior oil executives on Friday - since said by Sheikh Yamani to have been misinterpreted - have also led to falls in oil future prices.

The Saudi oil discount deals are due to begin on October 3, but it is the prospect of Saudi Arabia entering into a big oil swap deal with Britain which will unsettle the market and infuriate certain sectors within Opec.

Oil swap deals have been outlawed by Opec and last week Nigeria sent a delegation to Saudi Arabia to assure the Government there that it would obey Opec rules and review Nigeria's oil swap policy. The previous Lagos Government admitted four big oil swap contracts which Opec felt disguised a cut in official oil prices.

Saudi Arabia's purchase of 10 Boeing 747s with Rolls Royce engines two years ago, by putting \$10 billion worth of oil suddenly on the market through a Boeing subsidiary company, distorted prices and forced Opec to call an emergency meeting to review its rules.

Any decision to buy £3 billion of British-built military aircraft with oil has almost certainly been taken by the ruling royal family without consulting the oil ministry.

The Boeing deal was concluded without the approval of Sheikh Yamani, and Prince Sultan, the Saudi defence minister, who is to sign the British contract this week, is among the faction within the country which has been urging increased oil production rather than a cut to support Opec policy.

Any Saudi oil involved could have traded through the counter trade department of the leading British clearing banks or independent specialist traders who operate in London, but because it would compete head-on with North Sea output in the European market it could send prices and North Sea earnings down.

The issue of whether the oil is produced from within Saudi

Arabia's Opec quota and at official Opec prices, or whether it will be drawn from the Saudi floating stockpile held by its Norbec oil trading company would also have an effect on prices in spot markets.

Ironically, Opec formed 25 years ago this week, in Baghdad, has been held together largely by the dominance of Saudi Arabia and its preparedness to cut production to allow smaller member countries a larger share of the available market.

Dr Subroto, Opec president and Indonesian oil minister, said yesterday: "Without Opec the production and pricing policy of oil companies would have led to such a rapid depletion of its member countries' huge reserves that today an energy shortage would have been inevitable. In so doing Opec has preserved for generations to come enough oil to meet future world requirements."

UK starting to catch up, says NEDC

By Our Economics Editor

Britain's industrial performance has been markedly worse than its main competitors over the past two decades, but there has been some signs of recent improvement, according to a new survey by the National Economic Development Council.

The report points out that Britain has achieved the slowest growth rate of six leading economies since 1964, although between 1979 and 1984 its performance has been close to that of other European economies. Britain's inflation rate has been above average, although between 1981 and early 1985 it was significantly below the rate in the rest of the European Community.

Among the industrial points made in the report:

● Britain has seen the biggest shift from manufacturing, partly reflecting structural change towards services production, in which Britain's production gains have out-matched competitors. Britain's manufacturing performance has been "significantly worse" than in other countries, while its growth of value-added in services has been slower.

● Britain's profit rate has been below that of its main competitors, but the gap has narrowed since the mid-1970s.

● Britain's productivity performance has been worse than other countries in all industries except agriculture, where there has been faster productivity growth than in West Germany, France or Italy and energy. However, the report points out that the data is not sufficiently up-to-date to reflect the sharp rise in British productivity in the 1980s.

● Investment was significantly slower in Britain than in other European countries in the years 1972 to 1982, except in banking, finance and insurance, where it has been far more rapid. This partly reflects the growth of leased assets, encouraged by capital allowances against corporation tax.

● Britain's exports present a mixed picture, with comparatively rapid growth in energy, transport equipment and chemicals, contrasted with slow growth in textiles.

● Britain's labour costs per unit of output have increased more rapidly than in any major economy except Italy (measured in national currencies). Measured in a common currency, comparisons suggest some improvement in British competitiveness in the 1980s.

● Britain has the highest unemployment rate among the major economies. Employment in Britain has fallen since 1974, although the recent improvement has risen substantially in the US and Japan.

Britain urged to hit back over US tax

By Michael Prest, Financial Correspondent

Angry British businessmen and MPs will press Whitehall to retaliate against the US after the California legislature last week failed, in its final session of the year, to abolish unitary taxation.

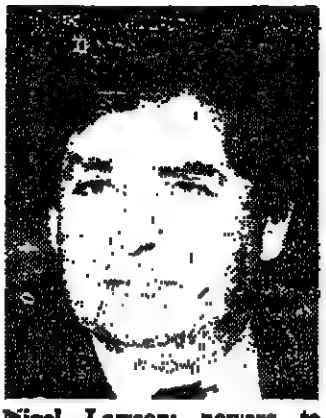
Under this system, a business is taxed on the percentage of its local operations represent of its worldwide turnover, profits, payroll and assets.

As a result, a company may pay much more than if assessed on local profits. Of the six American states which levy unitary tax, California is the most important.

Yesterday the Unitary Tax Campaign, a coalition of businesses which has been fighting the tax, said it was bitterly disappointed and angered.

The campaign was successful in persuading the Government to add to the last Finance Act powers enabling Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, to deprive American companies in Britain of their relief on advanced corporation tax.

Mr Michael Grylls, Conservative MP for Surrey North-west who has led the Parliament



Nigel Lawson: powers to retaliate.

ary opposition to the tax, said yesterday: "I shall certainly be pressing the Chancellor to exercise his powers as soon as the House resumes. I think we've taken a big step nearer retaliation."

The mood within British business will be even angrier, Mr Peter Welch, chairman of the Unitary Tax Campaign, said: "It is 10 years since the US government promised to end this iniquitous tax. It's been promises, promises, promises, all the way."

Enterprise seeks bid go-ahead

By Ian Griffiths

Enterprise Oil's relationship with its largest shareholder, Rio Tinto-Zinc, will be tested today at its extraordinary meeting to seek approval to go ahead with the £120.6 million bid for Saxon Oil.

Enterprise needs only a simple majority, so RTZ's 29.9 per cent stake is not in itself sufficient to block the bid, but attention will be on which way the stake is voted.

Observers do not expect RTZ to oppose the takeover. As a significant shareholder, it has been kept well-informed.

Although Enterprise has neither sought nor received RTZ's assurance of support, the oil company has been confident of receiving shareholders' backing for the Saxon bid.

Enterprise bought shares in Saxon steadily throughout last week and now holds 21.7 per cent. It would have been encouraged by the level of withdrawal of acceptances for the rival merger between Saxon and Charterhouse Petroleum.

The rebel Saxon directors, led by the chief executive, Mr John Heaney, are still supporting the merger with Charterhouse Petroleum.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Inflation an obstinate old dragon that never dies

The drop in inflation, to 6.2 per cent for the year to August, has dried some sweat on Treasury brows. We seem likely to overshoot the official forecast - 5 per cent by the fourth quarter of this year - only modestly. Some generous rounding down might even dispose of the error altogether. A downward trend had been re-established, and weak import prices give promise it may continue.

We still stick out like a sore thumb among the likes of Japan, West Germany and the United States. But there is no good reason, only bad ones, why we should not come respectably close to the Prime Minister's aim of 3 per cent by the next election, or at least the Treasury's forecast of 3½ per cent.

Who cares? In politics, it is well known that dragons, once slain, disappear in a puff of smoke, to be forgotten by voters. Perhaps it is timely to be reminded by Rip van Winkle of the obstinate persistence of inflation. It has made its mark on history for as long as prices have been accurately recorded. It is not a disease like smallpox, that can be pursued until some bunch of economists can finally announce its eradication. It can always re-emerge.

Arthur Brown published his tremendous survey of postwar inflation in 1955. Thirty years later, he has made a great worldwide sweep of the three decades from 1950, in fact and economic literature. This has not, you may be surprised to learn, been an exceptionally dramatic inflationary phase. It affords "no cases of really full-blooded hyperinflation". Even Argentina, the most inflation-prone country during this period, increased prices a mere hundred thousand times in three decades. That fails Arthur Brown's test of hyperinflation, which he defines as a condition where the currency blows itself up out of normal use: as in Greece in 1944, Hungary in 1946, or - or course - Germany and several points east after the First World War.

Statistically, Arthur Brown accepts the classic definition of hyperinflation as a rise in prices that exceeds 50 per cent a month, meaning that prices rise more than 130 times in a single year. No country has achieved this during the period under review. Marking an even more significant change from the two previous great inflationary phases, no European country came anywhere near such a rate. In his league table, Turkey and Yugoslavia hold the European record. Spain has the highest West European score. There, prices rose more than tenfold between 1950 and 1979. Unsurprisingly, West Germany has the lowest score. Prices merely doubled in three decades, a record beaten by only one of the 48 countries surveyed by the author. (The record holder - Malaysia - is rather less predictable.)

Somewhere in the middle come both the United Kingdom, where prices rose more than six times, and Japan, where they rose cumulatively very nearly as fast. It is useful to be reminded that Japan was a high-inflation country until the mid-1970s. And here lies the first clue to the disturbing uniqueness of the most recent phase in inflation's history.

It was extraordinarily widespread. No market economy escaped the contagion. The average was a fivefold price increase during this period. By contrast, the Second World War and its aftermath (say, from July 1939 to August 1948) saw a series of hyperinflationary explosions, but on average only a three-fold price increase. The First World War, likewise, produced inflationary pneumonia in a few countries and a severe cold in others. During the years from 1950, almost every economy has suffered from chronic inflationary bronchitis.

Further illumination comes from comparison with the previous great inflation which was not connected with a major

war, in the 16th and 17th centuries, when the cost of living seems to have risen perhaps sixfold during 150 years. Clearly, we have done worse in the middle of the 20th century, taking one fifth of the time to achieve the same inflation.

The unique feature of modern inflation has been its persistence. Inflation is not the mere fact that prices are going up. A flexible market system allows some prices to rise while others fall; it is not a requirement of price stability that these shifts should cancel out perfectly in a single day or even a single calendar year. But it must be a two-way process.

Looking back as far as the 13th century, Arthur Brown informs us that price-runs in the same direction - either up or down - of more than six years' duration were very rare in Britain until the mid-1930s. Since then we have been moving only one way. Consumer prices have risen continuously for 50 years. It is a tough old dragon that Mrs Thatcher has chosen to slay.

To make things more difficult, inflation changes its form; and again, Arthur Brown provides a useful recapitulation. During the first two decades under his microscope, domestic prices rose faster than those of traded goods, particularly raw materials; the position was reversed during the third decade. In other words, during those first two decades industrial countries allowed their domestic costs to rise, and were saved from savage inflation by the cheapness of primary products; in the third decade, they got their comeuppance.

There is a sharp lesson here. For what we are seeing now is an echo of the first phase. In Britain, domestic labour costs are rising disturbingly fast. Inflation is being damped down by the weakness of raw material prices, itself a consequence of slow world growth, coupled with the competitive pressures imposed on the manufacturers of traded goods by the need to compete in slack world markets. This is not a stable position.

Thus the story leads relentlessly back to the labour markets, where the most persistent pressure of the past 30 years originates. In Arthur Brown's concluding words, it is the structure and working of national labour markets that have been probably the main source of differences in success in combining high activity with success against inflation. This remains Britain's obvious weakness.

On every conceivable occasion now, ministers hector employers on the need to contain wage settlements. This represents, at least, a recognition of the limits to their success. For there has been some real success. It has been made clear that monetary control, based as much on exchange-rate policy as on old-style monetary supply targets, can prevent a credit spree leading to the inflationary dance.

It has also been demonstrated that a sufficiently determined government can, at some cost, use a monetary squeeze to counter other inflationary pressures at birth, and thus prevent the conflict that has led to higher unemployment.

The fond hope that this conflict would be transitory has given way to a renewed attempt to make labour markets work better. The search is being accelerated by the prospect of another election, at which there will be a healthy appetite for a convincing labour market strategy. What should be clear to all competitors is that no strategy can work well if the present attempt to break the inflationary habits of two generations is abandoned. The history of both the past five, and the past 50 years should combine to teach us there are no quick fixes.

*World inflation since 1950. Cambridge University Press.

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

Latincapital shortage

Latin America's leading debtor countries, which collectively owe about \$300 billion (£227 billion), are likely to face further difficulties in servicing their debts without renewed capital investment, the Inter-American Development Bank says in a report released today.

In "Economic and Social Progress in Latin America, 1985 Report", the bank argues that investment has been hit so hard by the need to service debts that adequate real growth looks hard.

● Senhor Dilson Funaro, Brazil's foreign minister, meets Mr Jacques de Larosiere, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, in Washington today, and may explain the shift in Brazil's economic policy since his appointment last month. Brazil, after the US, has the world's largest foreign debt at \$105 billion.

Savings miss

The Department of National Savings has fallen more than £700 million, behind its £3 billion funding programme for this year after failing for the second successive month to reach its average monthly target of £250 million.

Sweeter Britain

British demand for chocolate has grown by 30 per cent in value since 1981 to £1.74 billion a year. The average Briton now eats 20 per cent more chocolate than four years ago, more than any other members of the EEC.

Japanese fears on trade

From David Watts, Tokyo

The Japanese foreign minister, Mr Shintaro Abe believes some trade protection bills will be passed by the United States Congress despite attempts by President Reagan to forestall them.

Mr Abe said on television that the US trade deficit with Japan could reach \$50 billion (£37 billion) this year.

The Japanese government is searching for ways to prevent a wave of protectionism from engulfing its foreign markets.

Under discussion will be several options: an international currency summit; boosting the yen's international value and restrictions on the outflow of Japanese capital.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

Friday's close and change on week
FT 100 1011.9 (-8.9)
FT All Share 634.41 (-10.28)
FT Govt Securities 82.94 (-0.31)
FT-SE 100 1308.8 (-23.4)

Datastream USM 107.21 (+0.26)
New York
Dow Jones 1307.68 (-28.01)
Tokyo
Nikkei Dow 12,585.70 (+149.85)
Hong Kong
Hang Seng 1,605.94 (+26.78)
Amsterdam 220.3 (-1.4)
Sydney: AO 963.2 (+19.8)
Frankfurt
Commerzbank 1,507.6 (+7.9)
Brussels
General 425.08 (-5.04)
Paris: CAC 219.9 (-0.1)

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interims: C D Bramall, Brent Chemical International, EIS Group, Enterprise Oil, Hall Engineering, Invergordon Distillers, Laidlaw Thomson Group, Manor National, Ransomes Sims & Jefferies, Roberts Adlard, Scottish

Heritable, Simon Engineering, E T Sutherland & Son, Tarmac, Wolstenholme Plink.
Finales: Coin Industries, Dalgety, G T Japan Investment Trust, Isotrac, Mann & Company, Old Court International Reserves, Process Systems.

TOMORROW - Interims: APV Holdings, Barr & Wallace Arnold Trust, Barrow Hepburn, Bestobell, Britton Estates, Coates Patons, Fisons, Folkes Group, Hartons Group (amended), JSD Computer Group International, Bernard Matthews, Petranol, Pittard Group, Promotions House, Steausa Roman, Systems Designers, Travis & Arnold.
Finales: Armstrong Equipment, British Benzol Carbonising, Consolidated Goldfields, Interservice Technology Services, A & J Mucklow, G H Scholes, Trafford Park Estates, Zettars Group.

WEDNESDAY - Interims: Allied Plant Group, ATA Selection, Bemrose Corporation, Britannia Arrow Holdings, BL British Syphon Industries, Business Computer Systems, Calabread Robey, Cooper Industries, Delaney Group, Gartmore Information & Financial Trust, J Hewitt & Son (Fenton),

Jones & Shipman, Legal & General, Lowe Howard-Spink, Campbell-Ewald Holdings, Hugh Mackay, Owen & Owen, Paul Michael, Spang Holdings, Steel Burill Jones Group, Stewart Wrightson, Trinity International Holdings (Expected on Thursday), Westwood Dawes, J Wilkes, Woolworth Holdings.
Finales: Manson Finance Trust.

THURSDAY - Interims: W Baird, Bodycote International, British Priming & Communication Corporation, British Telecommunications (quarterly), Brown Boveri Kent, Highcroft Investment Trust, Jebsons Drilling, Laidlaw Group, Laporta Industries (Holdings), W Morrison Supermarkets, Perry Group, Ramco, Yule Catto & Co.
Finales: Intec Group (amended), Industrial Finance & Investment Corporation, Profinder, Staffordshire Potteries, Westpool Investment Trust.

FRIDAY - Interims: Boddingtons Breweries, Energy Recovery Investment Corporation, International Investment Trust Company of Jersey (DIV), Renown Inc, Scusa.
Finales: Northern Industrial Improvement Trust, M Peters Group.

Cement groups provide a tempting takeover target for predators

Tech	120	1.1	2.3	3.0
Telecom	120	1.1	2.3	3.0
Energy	119	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	118	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	117	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	116	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	115	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	114	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	113	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	112	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	111	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	110	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	109	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	108	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	107	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	106	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	105	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	104	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	103	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	102	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	101	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	100	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	99	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	98	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	97	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	96	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	95	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	94	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	93	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	92	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	91	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	90	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	89	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	88	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	87	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	86	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	85	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	84	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	83	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	82	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	81	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	80	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	79	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	78	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	77	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	76	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	75	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	74	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	73	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	72	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	71	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	70	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	69	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	68	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	67	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	66	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	65	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	64	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	63	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	62	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	61	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	60	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	59	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	58	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	57	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	56	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	55	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	54	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	53	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	52	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	51	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	50	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	49	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	48	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	47	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	46	1.1	2.3	3.0
Capital Goods	45	1.1	2.3	3.0
Consumer Goods	44	1.1	2.3	3.0
Financial	43	1.1	2.3	3.0
Industrial	42	1.1	2.3	3.0
Technology	41	1.1	2.3	3.0
Health Care	40	1.1	2.3	3.0
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